

APRIL 1955

VOLUME I • NUMBER 4

# CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

C41.380/3

*Featured in this issue . . .*

**REVISED INDEXES OF  
CONSTRUCTION  
MATERIALS OUTPUT**

- *Expenditures*
- *Starts*
- *Materials*
- *Awards*
- *Permits*
- *Costs*
- *Employment*



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

DOCUMENTS

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MAY 2 1955



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# CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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\* Includes special tabulations showing metropolitan area analysis of 1954 data.

*Inquiries on the content of Construction Review may be  
addressed to the publication in care of either agency.*

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## At a Glance

**NEW CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN MARCH**--Seasonal expansion during March brought the value of new construction put in place to a new high both for the month (\$2.9 billion) and for the first quarter (\$8.4 billion). The January-March 1955 figure was 13 percent over the previous first-quarter high in 1954, reflecting increased activity this year for nearly all types of private work and sustained expansion in State and local public works. Seasonally adjusted, new construction activity in the 1955 first quarter was at an unprecedented annual rate of \$41 billion, compared with the actual total outlay of \$37.2 billion in 1954.

**HOUSING STARTS IN FEBRUARY**--Nonfarm housing starts totaled 90,000 in February, a record level for that month although the rise (2 percent) from the unusually high January figure was small. February marked the tenth consecutive month that current monthly volume was above the year-ago level. For January-February 1955, private and public housebuilding totaled 178,000 units, 26 percent more than in the same 1954 months. Privately owned starts this February (88,600) were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,381,000, lower than the December and January rates, but well above the 1,201,400 private dwelling units begun in calendar year 1954.

**FHA-VA ACTIVITY IN FEBRUARY**--The proportion of new private nonfarm housing started under Government-assisted programs, although down from the peak levels of the closing months of last year, amounted to half of total units started in January-February 1955, compared with 39 percent in the same 1954 period. The higher ratio this year was influenced mostly by VA starts, which in the first 2 months of 1955 were double last year's volume while FHA starts were up by a fourth. VA appraisal requests and FHA applications (which usually anticipate future starts) were higher this year by 102 percent and 55 percent, respectively.

**NONFARM MORTGAGE RECORDINGS IN JANUARY**--The total dollar volume of nonfarm mortgage recordings in January 1955 was up 48 percent from a year earlier, and the average mortgage amount rose by 13 percent--from \$6,292 to \$7,120. January marked the seventh consecutive month in which total mortgage recordings exceeded \$2 billion. The number of mortgage recordings was almost a third greater this January than in January 1954.

**BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY IN FEBRUARY**--Building permit activity rose as is usual in February, with permit valuations increasing 8 percent over the month to a \$1.2-billion total. The rise in permit valuations from January was general among major types of building except industrial construction. Building permit activity for industrial construction was the same in January and February, but the February figure was 55 percent greater this year than in 1954. For other leading kinds of building, the level of permit valuations this February ranged from 16 percent to 32 percent higher than a year ago.

**PUBLIC CONTRACTS AWARDED IN JANUARY**--The \$521-million total of contracts awarded in January for public construction was slightly (4 percent) above the January 1954 total, despite a decline of almost a third from December. State and local contract awards, at \$439.1 million in January, totaled 10 percent more than a year ago because of gains on most major types of work except State owned toll roads. Federal awards were down about a fifth from January 1954, due principally to reduced commitments for AEC expansion.

**CONTRACTS AWARDED IN THE 37 EASTERN STATES IN FEBRUARY**--The value of construction contracts awarded in the 37 States east of the Rocky Mountains increased moderately over the high January level to set a new February record of \$1.6 billion, according to reports of the F. W. Dodge Corporation. This total compared with an award total of \$1.2 billion for February a year ago. Residential awards showed a 46-percent increase over February 1954, while public works contracts were up 29 percent and nonresidential awards increased 14 percent.



## At a Glance

**CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN FEBRUARY**--Construction costs in February showed no change from the previous month, as indicated by the Department of Commerce Composite Cost Index. The overall index during the first 2 months of 1955 stood at 123.4 percent of the 1947-49 average. Although a record figure, this was only 2 percent above the level of construction costs in February 1954, and 1.1 percent above the average cost level last year.

**WHOLESALE PRICES OF BUILDING MATERIALS IN FEBRUARY**--The wholesale price index for building materials, which has been rising slowly since last summer, edged up again in February. At 122.5, it was 3.4 percent above the 1954 low in June. The fractional increase from January to February 1955 was influenced mostly by higher quotations for lumber products, particularly softwoods, and for metal materials--the latter led by building wire. Structural clay products, concrete ingredients, and a few types of paint showed scant increases, and asphalt roofing (a highly competitive industry in which shortages are unusual) showed the only significant decline in February.

**CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OUTPUT IN JANUARY**--Output of most major construction materials during January 1955 was substantially greater than in the same 1954 month, especially for those items important in residential building. Shipments of warm-air furnaces increased by nearly one-half over January 1954 to an alltime monthly high. Softwood lumber production was up 10 percent over the year, while output of hardwood flooring increased by 20 percent. Production of brick and shipments of asphalt prepared roofing were nearly one-fourth above the January 1954 level.

**CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY**--Continued severity of winter weather was largely responsible for bringing contract construction employment to the lowest February level in 4 years. The number of employees on contractors' payrolls dropped by 89,000 from January to 2,269,000 in February. However, the total decline from peak employment last August to this February's low (about 580,000 workers during the 6-month period) was only slightly greater than the 1953-54 off-season drop of 540,000, which occurred during the 3 months, November-January.

**HOURS AND EARNINGS IN JANUARY**--Average hourly earnings for construction contractors' employees remained unchanged from December to January at \$2.59, but a seasonal shortening of the workweek (by an hour to 35.5 hours) caused a \$3.59 drop in weekly earnings to \$91.95. The decline in weekly hours and weekly pay occurred on all types of contract construction. Compared with January 1954, hourly pay was 5 cents higher this year, and weekly pay was at a new high for the month (\$4.83 above the January 1954 level). However, the January 1955 rise in hourly earnings from January 1954 averaged somewhat less than in most recent years. Also, while the workweek this January averaged 1.2 hours more than the postwar low of 34.3 hours in January 1954, in both years it was shorter than usual because of especially adverse weather.

**APPRENTICE TRAINING IN THE BUILDING TRADES, FOURTH QUARTER 1954**--Almost 85,000 apprentices were being trained in the building trades at the end of the fourth quarter of 1954--about the same number as a year earlier. Stability in the apprentice training program was evident in all the major building trades, with only small changes reported from a year ago, and a smaller decline than usual in 1954 from the third to the fourth quarter. The ratio of trainees among the various trades remained about the same in both years, with carpenter trades leading, followed by the plumber, electrical, trowel, sheet metal, and painter and paperhanging trades.

## Revised Indexes of Construction Materials Output

In this issue the Department of Commerce introduces a new series of construction materials output indexes. The former series were terminated with publication in the March issue.

The new series cover each of 10 groups of construction materials from 1947 to date. There are monthly indexes for 8 groups and quarterly indexes for the remaining 2, with annual data for all groups. The base period for each is the applicable average monthly or quarterly output during 1947-49. From time to time charts will be carried showing the monthly levels of the indexes, together with smooth curves depicting the long-term trend and cyclical movements of the data. Five such charts appear in part VI of this issue.

The indexes relate to production, shipment, or sales statistics. Since sufficient information is not available to treat these measures so that the indexes represent only production, the general term "output" is applicable to all three concepts. Five of the groups represent production, 4 apply to shipments or sales, and 1 applies to a combination of shipments and production. Table A presents the characteristics of the source material used in the calculation of the indexes.

### Comparison Between Revised and Discontinued Indexes

The materials represented in the new indexes were valued at \$5.5 billion in 1947, or roughly 45 percent of the construction materials produced in that year. The materials represented in the previous indexes had a production value of only \$1.9 billion in the same year.

The use of 1947 unit-price weights, instead of the 1946 weights used in the old series, provides a more accurate and up-to-date basis for consolidating the related products making up each group. The 1946 weights of the discontinued indexes were collected from numerous sources using different concepts. The prices used in the new indexes are derived largely from the 1947 Census of Manufactures. The few exceptions are based on sources of like reliability.

The previous series offered 2 composite indexes, 1 seasonally adjusted and the other unadjusted, and individual indexes for 18 specific materials. As revised, the indexes now cover each of 10 groups of materials. In addition, data for each of 48 individual materials will continue to be presented in terms of value or units of output.

### Methodology

The index for each group of construction materials represents the production, sales, or shipments of one or more specific materials. The source data consist of monthly or quarterly production, shipments, or sales for each item. Wherever feasible, shipment and sales data are converted to physical production. The monthly or quarterly physical output of each material is multiplied by its 1947 price to provide the value of such a quantity of materials had it been produced or shipped in 1947. The resulting values of all materials constituting each group are added together to yield aggregates for the group. The aggregates are converted to index numbers by equating the 1947-49 monthly or quarterly average to 100.

The trend lines appearing on the charts are derived from the group indexes by removing the month-to-month fluctuations resulting from seasonal and erratic factors. The lines are 12-month moving averages centered on the seventh month, with each calendar year centered on July. Projections for the last 6 months are made by using the current data adjusted for the seasonal movements appearing during the last 3 years and smoothed by a 3-month moving average.

### Limitation of the Indexes

The individual materials comprising the group indexes are largely longstanding, stable types. Many recently developed materials and others of longstanding use are not covered because no usable production statistics are available. At the same time, many of the new materials are gaining considerable prominence through new uses and as substitutes for some of those included in the indexes. The usefulness of the new series has been limited by the fact that current output information is not available for such important materials as aluminum roofing and siding, asbestos cement products, asphalt tile, builders hardware, concrete products, flat glass, nonrigid insulation, and metal windows and doors.

The revised indexes represent some progress in the development of output measures for construction materials, within the limits of available statistics. Further research is necessary to develop data on the materials omitted from these series. Price information on a year more recent than 1947 would be

an improvement. Finally, basic data in terms of monthly physical production would be superior to the current shipment and sales statistics. In the light of these possible improvements, the new indexes are offered as an interim measure.

TABLE A.—CHARACTERISTICS AND SOURCES OF DATA USED IN  
THE COMPILATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OUTPUT INDEX

Construction materials groups and items	Monthly production (1947-49 av.) in 1947 prices (in thousands)	Source of basic data	Output (Production, shipments, or sales)	Unit of measure	Source of base price
<b>MONTHLY INDEXES</b>					
<b>Lumber and Wood Products.</b>	<b>\$160,227</b>				
Softwood lumber .....	128,535	Nat'l. Lumber Mfgs. Assoc.	Production	MM bd. ft.	Bur. of Census
Douglas fir plywood .....	12,318	Douglas Fir Plywood Assoc.	"	MM sq. ft.	" " "
				3/8" basis	
Hardwood flooring .....	9,546	Nat'l. Lumber Mfgs. Assoc.	"	MM bd. ft.	" " "
Insulation Boards .....	6,641	Bureau of Census	"	Tons	" " "
Hardboard .....	3,187	" " "	"	Tons	" " "
<b>Millwork</b> .....	<b>\$ 9,820</b>				
Fir paneled doors .....	2,740	Fir Door Institute	Production	M doors	Bur. of Census
Ponderosa pine doors .....	2,429	Nat'l. Wood Work Mfgs. Assoc.	"	M doors	" " "
Exterior frames .....	2,033	" " " " "	"	M frames	" " "
Sash .....	1,563	" " " " "	"	M sash	" " "
Hardwood doors .....	1,055	" " " " "	"	M doors	" " "
<b>Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer</b> .....	<b>\$ 60,008</b>	Paint, Varnish & Lacquer Assoc. 1947-50 Bureau of Census 1951	Total factory trades sales of paint, varnish, and lacquer converted to value of shipments in June-September 1954 dollars by application of Bureau of Labor Statistics price index data and Bureau of the Census shipment statistics June-September 1954 average price of paint, varnish, and lacquer divided into constant dollar series to yield estimated physical shipments which are the basis of the production index for these construction materials.		
<b>Portland Cement</b> .....	<b>\$ 31,762</b>	Bureau of Mines	Production	M barrels	Bur. of Mines
<b>Asphalt Products</b> .....	<b>\$ 19,967</b>				
Prepared roofing .....	14,184	Bureau of Census	Shipments	M sales sqs.	Bur. of Census
Asphalt and tar .....	2,998	" " "	"	Tons converted to equiv. M sales sqs.	" " "
Asphalt insulated .....	2,042	" " "	"	M sales sqs.	" " "
brick siding .....		" " "	"	M sales sqs.	" " "
Asphalt siding .....	733	" " "	"	M sales sqs.	" " "
<b>Heating and Plumbing Equipment</b> .....	<b>\$ 26,463</b>				
Warm air furnaces .....	11,319	Bureau of Census	Shipments <sup>2</sup>	Units	Bur. of Census
Gas water heaters .....	6,420	" " "	"	M units	" " "
Residential oil burners .....	4,329	" " "	"	Units	" " "
Floor and wall furnaces .....	2,573	" " "	"	Units	" " "
Cast iron radiators .....	1,822	" " "	"	Units	" " "
<b>Iron and Steel Products</b> .....	<b>\$106,205</b>				
Fabricated structural .....	32,155	American Institute of Steel Construction	Shipments	M tons	Bur. of Census
Galvanized steel sheets .....	14,367	American Iron & Steel Institute	"	M tons	" " "
Steel line pipe .....	10,250	" " " " "	"	M tons	" " "
Steel rails .....	10,155	" " " " "	"	M tons	" " "
Concrete reinforcing bars .....	8,749	" " " " "	"	M tons	" " "
Cast iron pressure pipe .....	8,064	Bureau of Census	"	M tons	" " "
Wire nails .....	7,768	American Iron & Steel Institute	"	Tons	" " "
Cast iron soil pipe .....	5,999	Bureau of Census	"	M tons	" " "
Rigid steel conduit pipe .....	3,180	Nat'l. Electrical Mfgs.	Shipments <sup>3</sup>	Tons	" " "
Steel piling .....	1,518	American Iron & Steel Institute	Shipments	Tons	" " "

See footnotes at end of table.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

TABLE A.—CHARACTERISTICS AND SOURCES OF DATA USED IN  
THE COMPILATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OUTPUT INDEX—Continued

Construction materials groups and items	Monthly production (1947-49 av.) in 1947 prices (in thousands)	Source of basic data	Output (Production, shipments, or sales)	Unit of measure	Source of base price
<b>Clay Construction Products</b>	<b>\$ 19,997</b>				
Brick.....	10,250	Bureau of Census	Production	MM brick	Bur. of Census
Vitrified clay sewer pipe....	3,869	" " "	"	M tons	" " "
Floor and wall tile .....	3,537	" " "	"	M sq. ft.	" " "
Hollow facing tile .....	1,249	" " "	"	M brick equivalent	" " "
Structural clay tile .....	1,072	" " "	"	"	" " "
<b>QUARTERLY INDEXES</b>					
<b>Gypsum Products</b> .....	<b>\$ 26,773</b>				
Gypsum board.....	16,953	Bureau of Mines	Shipments	MM sq. ft.	Bur. of Mines
Gypsum lath .....	9,820	" " "	"	MM sq. ft.	" " "
<b>Plumbing Fixtures</b> .....	<b>\$ 40,970</b>				
Bathtubs.....	14,704	Bureau of Census	Production	Units	Bur. of Census
Kitchen sinks .....	7,824	" " "	"	Units	" " "
Water closet bowls .....	6,724	" " "	"	Units	" " "
Flush tanks .....	5,936	" " "	"	Units	" " "
Lavatories .....	5,782	" " "	"	Units	" " "

<sup>1</sup> Represents values which are equated to the base of 100 in the production indexes. These values provide measures of the relative importance of items included in each category of construction materials. Prices are at Mill, Factory or Plant.

<sup>2</sup> Factory shipments of furnaces converted to production by adjustment with end of month stocks.

<sup>3</sup> Mill shipments of pipe (excluding fittings) in feet, converted to tons by application of weight factor for each type and size of pipe.

TABLE B.—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS: INDEXES OF OUTPUT, 1947-54

(1947-49 monthly average = 100)

Year	Annual average	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS</b>													
1947.....	98.1	81.8	87.4	95.4	100.4	108.2	101.1	103.5	103.6	104.1	108.6	93.2	90.3
1948.....	105.0	95.8	89.2	108.2	105.5	105.8	110.1	112.1	119.2	112.4	111.0	100.0	90.8
1949.....	96.9	73.4	73.5	94.1	99.5	104.1	105.6	90.6	110.7	107.6	104.0	102.9	97.1
1950.....	116.2	82.9	86.4	110.9	115.1	127.6	128.4	116.3	139.9	129.6	130.4	119.7	107.0
1951.....	114.2	106.6	98.3	114.5	121.2	133.6	126.7	106.7	128.9	115.1	122.3	107.9	88.6
1952.....	115.0	100.8	101.4	104.6	116.5	112.6	119.5	116.9	127.9	130.8	134.0	109.8	105.2
1953.....	120.1	110.4	108.6	125.6	132.1	126.4	130.1	122.3	118.8	122.8	126.6	111.3	106.0
1954.....	118.3	102.1	107.1	128.1	126.3	124.5	<sup>1</sup> 117.9	<sup>1</sup> 93.9	<sup>1</sup> 107.6	<sup>1</sup> 126.6	133.5	127.5	124.9
<b>MILLWORK</b>													
1947.....	96.0	95.4	83.4	93.4	98.9	101.0	98.7	79.0	96.6	91.2	112.6	101.9	100.2
1948.....	108.1	112.8	108.5	121.0	118.3	107.5	102.1	89.4	111.8	117.1	107.8	96.4	104.9
1949.....	95.8	91.5	89.2	103.7	87.1	84.8	92.5	68.1	100.7	104.3	105.2	113.4	108.5
1950.....	122.8	105.7	109.5	136.7	127.4	131.0	130.1	95.8	139.6	120.4	133.0	129.8	114.4
1951.....	95.9	128.7	113.8	127.2	114.7	113.9	90.5	65.5	84.9	73.4	91.9	77.3	68.5
1952.....	94.2	78.2	81.0	85.7	91.6	88.1	99.0	89.5	102.1	107.2	114.5	92.3	101.3
1953.....	93.7	108.0	107.9	113.6	101.1	97.2	89.2	82.6	89.8	92.2	90.4	76.8	75.9
1954.....	97.2	75.8	83.3	97.4	91.9	91.5	98.5	170.6	192.9	120.2	121.6	108.8	114.4

See footnotes at end of table.



# CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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TABLE B.—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS: INDEXES OF OUTPUT, 1947-54—Continued

(1947-49 monthly average = 100)

Year	Annual average	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>PAINT, VARNISH, AND LACQUER</b>													
1947.....	102.8	95.4	96.7	110.4	128.8	125.6	114.4	106.8	102.4	100.6	106.2	79.4	72.6
1948.....	102.1	103.9	90.8	105.2	119.7	126.6	127.9	106.7	111.2	102.1	91.0	75.5	65.0
1949.....	95.1	89.9	81.3	97.6	105.3	111.6	108.2	96.5	110.3	102.9	91.6	80.8	65.0
1950.....	113.3	93.7	85.3	106.5	110.1	132.5	140.8	129.1	154.5	121.6	109.2	92.7	84.1
1951.....	101.5	119.6	107.2	115.9	110.3	116.9	112.2	98.8	104.3	91.0	97.2	80.0	64.8
1952.....	103.1	105.8	95.2	101.4	116.7	119.0	119.2	108.3	105.2	107.6	105.2	80.2	73.6
1953.....	103.6	96.3	92.7	106.2	115.2	116.7	122.1	113.3	109.4	108.7	102.1	84.3	76.3
1954.....	101.6	94.3	87.5	103.4	113.4	113.3	123.6	111.9	111.5	104.9	93.4	86.9	75.6
<b>PORTLAND CEMENT</b>													
1947.....	93.0	80.2	75.5	85.0	87.1	80.1	95.5	97.8	104.6	103.6	109.5	100.6	96.4
1948.....	102.4	87.0	79.8	86.8	96.0	106.1	106.2	112.0	113.4	111.3	115.7	110.3	104.2
1949.....	104.6	91.3	82.3	92.4	105.8	111.4	109.3	112.8	112.0	114.7	114.1	107.9	101.5
1950.....	112.7	90.9	78.5	85.5	108.5	119.3	119.6	123.9	130.9	125.3	134.4	121.0	114.4
1951.....	122.7	104.3	90.9	111.9	120.7	131.1	131.5	134.2	134.7	133.2	136.4	124.0	118.9
1952.....	124.2	101.9	99.0	108.2	118.5	130.6	124.1	127.7	141.0	137.6	144.5	131.9	124.9
1953.....	131.6	112.8	103.6	120.9	130.4	140.0	135.8	144.4	145.3	142.3	148.0	134.8	121.1
1954.....	135.2	106.3	101.1	120.5	129.9	139.1	136.4	152.3	153.6	152.8	154.9	142.6	133.3
<b>ASPHALT PRODUCTS</b>													
1947.....	114.4	109.7	101.9	112.6	119.4	116.1	113.3	112.0	113.6	118.7	132.7	110.9	112.2
1948.....	98.2	103.5	94.9	102.6	101.3	96.8	106.2	95.0	102.9	110.7	110.8	91.8	62.0
1949.....	87.3	53.1	53.9	68.0	93.3	84.9	94.0	86.4	109.6	116.4	120.7	104.0	63.4
1950.....	107.5	72.8	66.6	79.6	90.7	119.4	125.8	120.2	139.2	122.2	131.4	121.2	100.9
1951.....	101.5	109.4	92.9	114.9	103.7	108.4	98.3	96.3	115.8	108.3	131.1	86.4	52.9
1952.....	99.8	72.2	75.8	82.4	98.4	108.5	107.1	113.2	122.3	128.6	137.3	90.0	62.3
1953.....	100.3	70.9	72.6	84.7	110.7	113.4	109.9	115.6	132.7	122.3	122.0	88.6	60.3
1954.....	103.1	58.1	79.2	82.1	100.2	112.6	133.8	109.3	123.2	143.5	122.0	104.6	68.0
<b>HEATING AND PLUMBING EQUIPMENT</b>													
1947.....	124.0	135.6	127.5	127.5	116.2	111.8	106.5	109.3	130.4	139.1	158.0	118.0	108.1
1948.....	90.8	85.0	70.0	79.0	81.9	77.1	82.7	75.6	115.9	126.1	128.7	94.2	73.6
1949.....	84.9	65.1	54.6	65.7	62.2	64.8	75.2	68.0	110.5	131.7	139.5	107.6	74.1
1950.....	130.5	73.4	79.0	98.4	97.0	114.7	137.9	133.4	198.0	177.8	184.0	146.0	125.8
1951.....	105.8	126.2	126.9	132.8	111.7	101.9	91.5	72.9	94.2	104.6	124.5	102.4	79.9
1952.....	103.8	82.6	79.3	83.1	84.3	90.4	98.8	90.0	122.8	141.1	156.0	114.5	102.9
1953.....	115.6	100.0	95.9	105.9	110.9	107.8	119.4	122.4	135.4	143.0	155.0	101.9	89.1
1954.....	117.6	80.0	83.5	100.0	106.5	108.0	122.6	111.0	145.3	155.8	158.8	127.6	112.5
<b>IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS</b>													
1947.....	96.9	95.5	87.2	94.6	97.7	97.1	93.5	95.2	95.8	96.7	110.0	98.8	100.9
1948.....	102.5	96.3	92.3	108.2	97.7	104.4	98.8	98.4	104.3	105.4	108.5	104.8	110.4
1949.....	2100.8	104.4	99.3	118.1	107.6	103.9	108.7	95.0	124.5	114.7	2 49.0	2 79.0	105.4
1950.....	119.9	104.4	97.4	112.5	115.5	127.1	128.7	114.9	139.7	131.5	129.4	118.5	119.0
1951.....	122.8	125.7	109.1	133.5	127.1	132.4	131.8	110.1	129.1	118.4	127.8	117.4	111.7
1952.....	2113.0	129.1	123.1	135.3	118.8	120.5	2 52.5	2 51.6	117.1	126.1	137.9	117.7	126.7
1953.....	127.8	121.6	122.6	136.1	133.1	129.1	131.4	125.0	124.9	129.8	141.0	121.8	117.7
1954.....	120.5	109.8	113.9	128.8	134.0	124.5	138.1	121.4	126.9	124.3	121.3	105.6	97.6
<b>CLAY CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS</b>													
1947.....	96.8	89.1	80.9	84.5	90.0	96.7	95.5	98.1	103.0	104.0	113.1	103.9	103.4
1948.....	103.1	86.5	76.9	93.6	97.7	103.0	110.8	106.6	115.2	113.6	119.6	109.9	104.2
1949.....	99.9	93.5	86.0	96.7	97.8	100.2	104.4	95.0	108.1	104.9	107.0	105.3	99.7
1950.....	113.7	88.6	83.3	97.7	96.2	118.8	124.8	118.9	135.7	128.6	136.1	125.0	111.1
1951.....	122.7	116.6	102.8	122.2	124.7	133.6	130.0	124.9	134.6	120.8	135.1	122.7	104.7
1952.....	110.5	106.1	99.7	104.7	112.1	108.6	113.9	113.7	116.4	117.1	122.1	106.7	105.1
1953.....	112.2	97.3	94.9	109.7	114.3	113.8	119.4	114.7	117.9	120.6	122.5	112.6	108.2
1954.....	115.9	94.3	94.1	112.3	116.5	113.8	122.4	117.6	125.1	126.6	123.3	123.7	120.6

See footnotes at end of table.



## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

TABLE B.—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS: INDEXES OF OUTPUT, 1947-54—Continued

(1947-49 Monthly average = 100)

Year	Annual average	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
<b>GYPSUM PRODUCTS <sup>3</sup></b>					
1947.....	85.8	79.3	81.7	86.1	96.0
1948.....	112.9	106.9	111.6	113.2	120.0
1949.....	101.1	101.2	87.4	101.2	114.7
1950.....	127.5	118.2	122.3	132.5	137.1
1951.....	135.5	137.8	143.2	138.1	122.7
1952.....	129.2	114.3	127.2	138.5	136.7
1953.....	138.5	134.7	138.3	140.1	140.7
1954.....	151.6	132.8	152.3	158.9	162.2
<b>PLUMBING FIXTURES <sup>3</sup></b>					
1947.....	94.5	93.1	94.1	87.0	103.8
1948.....	112.3	109.7	106.9	107.1	125.4
1949.....	93.4	101.9	80.5	85.8	105.4
1950.....	125.2	116.0	119.7	129.4	135.8
1951.....	119.8	138.1	132.7	107.0	101.3
1952.....	94.7	92.0	89.8	92.8	104.2
1953.....	101.0	106.3	106.0	92.3	99.3
1954.....	107.2	103.3	101.0	101.3	123.1

<sup>1</sup> Douglas Fir Industries work stoppage.    <sup>2</sup> Steel industry work stoppage.    <sup>3</sup> Only quarterly data available.

\* \* \* \*

Adequacy of Our Public Water Supplies -- 1953 Summary

A NEW REPORT—expanding data presented in the March issue of Construction Review in the article "Construction Requirements for Water and Sewerage Works." It presents more detailed information on the amount of construction necessary to provide adequate water-supply facilities—showing the current and needed amount of reserve capacity, and the expenditures required for expansion of water-supply, treatment, pumping, storage, and distribution facilities. Based on surveys made in 1953, this report was prepared by the Water and Sewerage Industry and Utilities Division, Business and Defense Services Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Copies of "Adequacy of Our Public Water Supplies--1953 Summary" are available at 10 cents each, from the Sales and Distribution Division, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.; or the Department of Commerce Field Offices (see inside front cover for address).

## Part I--Construction Put in Place

Table 1.--New Construction Put in Place: Current Month, by Type of Construction

Type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)					Percent change		
	1955		1954	First 3 months		March 1955 from--		First 3 months,
	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	1954	1955	Feb. 1955	Mar. 1954	1954-55
<b>TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	2,919	2,644	2,567	7,357	8,350	+10	+14	+13
<b>PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	2,151	1,986	1,779	5,126	6,198	+ 8	+21	+21
Residential building (nonfarm).....	1,145	1,034	863	2,437	3,290	+11	+33	+35
New dwelling units.....	1,050	950	770	2,175	3,020	+11	+36	+39
Additions and alterations.....	74	63	71	195	207	+17	+ 4	+ 6
Nonhousekeeping.....	21	21	22	67	63	0	- 5	- 6
Nonresidential building.....	559	548	469	1,429	1,648	+ 2	+19	+15
Industrial.....	186	187	173	528	558	- 1	+ 8	+ 6
Commercial.....	208	198	154	475	594	+ 5	+35	+25
Warehouses, office and loft buildings.....	82	83	70	218	250	- 1	+17	+15
Stores, restaurants, and garages.....	126	115	84	257	344	+10	+50	+34
Other nonresidential building.....	165	163	142	426	496	+ 1	+16	+16
Religious.....	53	53	40	123	161	0	+33	+31
Educational.....	41	39	38	115	122	+ 5	+ 8	+ 6
Hospital and institutional.....	28	28	27	79	84	0	+ 4	+ 6
Social and recreational.....	17	17	16	48	52	0	+ 6	+ 8
Miscellaneous.....	26	26	21	61	77	0	+24	+26
Farm construction.....	105	97	114	322	295	+ 8	- 8	- 8
Public utility.....	328	294	326	917	924	+12	+ 1	+ 1
Railroad.....	27	20	31	83	69	+35	-13	-17
Telephone and telegraph.....	52	47	50	141	146	+11	+ 4	+ 4
Other public utility.....	249	227	245	693	709	+10	+ 2	+ 2
All other private.....	14	13	7	21	41	+ 8	+100	+95
<b>PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	768	658	788	2,231	2,152	+17	- 3	- 4
Residential building.....	21	21	34	105	65	0	-38	-38
Nonresidential building.....	340	304	365	1,064	974	+12	- 7	- 8
Industrial.....	79	68	140	423	235	+16	-44	-44
Educational.....	185	170	158	458	530	+ 9	+17	+16
Hospital and institutional.....	25	23	26	72	72	+ 9	- 4	0
Other nonresidential building.....	51	43	41	111	137	+19	+24	+23
Military facilities.....	85	78	75	217	245	+ 9	+13	+13
Highway.....	170	125	160	415	440	+36	+ 6	+ 6
Sewer and water.....	82	70	75	212	229	+17	+ 9	+ 8
Public service enterprises.....	12	10	14	39	34	+20	-14	-13
Conservation and development.....	46	40	52	147	133	+15	-12	-10
All other public.....	12	10	13	32	32	+20	- 8	0

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

NOTE: For all the statistical series shown in Construction Review, data for the latest months or quarter, and the most recent year, are subject to revision.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 2.--New Construction Put in Place: Recent Monthly Trend, by Type of Construction

(Value, in millions of dollars)

Type of construction	1955				1954								
	Mar.	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	Sept.	Aug.	July	June	May	Apr.	Mar.
<b>TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2,919	2,644	2,787	2,985	3,285	3,479	3,614	3,637	3,522	3,364	3,114	2,813	2,567
<b>PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION</b>	2,151	1,986	2,061	2,202	2,347	2,410	2,457	2,459	2,392	2,278	2,122	1,927	1,779
Residential building													
(nonfarm)	1,145	1,034	1,111	1,214	1,292	1,321	1,326	1,313	1,267	1,193	1,107	980	863
New dwelling units	1,050	950	1,020	1,115	1,175	1,195	1,195	1,175	1,125	1,050	970	860	770
Additions and alterations	74	63	70	77	95	102	106	110	113	114	111	96	71
Nonhousekeeping	21	21	21	22	22	24	25	28	29	29	26	24	22
Nonresidential building	559	548	541	534	551	541	551	552	549	528	490	464	469
Industrial	186	187	185	172	169	163	160	160	161	164	165	169	173
Commercial	208	198	188	186	200	197	207	207	203	189	167	151	154
Warehouses, office and													
loft buildings	82	83	85	88	94	89	89	88	81	76	72	69	70
Stores, restaurants,													
and garages	126	115	103	98	106	108	118	119	122	113	95	82	84
Other nonresidential bldg.	165	163	168	176	182	181	184	185	185	175	158	144	142
Religious	53	53	55	57	59	58	57	55	51	46	42	40	40
Educational	41	39	42	51	53	54	54	53	51	47	43	39	38
Hospital & institutional	28	28	28	28	29	29	29	29	29	28	28	27	27
Social and recreational	17	17	18	15	17	18	19	20	20	20	17	16	16
Miscellaneous	26	26	25	25	24	22	25	28	34	34	28	22	21
Farm construction	105	97	93	93	106	126	153	167	164	157	145	127	114
Public utility	328	294	302	349	386	410	415	415	400	389	371	348	326
Railroad	27	20	22	29	34	35	34	33	31	32	31	33	31
Telephone and telegraph	52	47	47	49	53	57	56	56	55	54	54	50	50
Other public utility	249	227	233	271	299	318	325	326	314	303	286	265	245
All other private	14	13	14	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	9	8	7
<b>PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION</b>	768	658	726	783	938	1,069	1,157	1,178	1,130	1,086	992	886	788
Residential building	21	21	23	22	23	25	26	26	25	28	31	34	34
Nonresidential building	340	304	330	339	358	378	403	423	409	397	387	377	365
Industrial	79	68	88	100	103	105	109	130	130	130	132	138	140
Educational	185	170	175	174	179	184	189	187	181	176	172	165	158
Hospital and institutional	25	23	24	24	27	30	32	35	33	34	33	30	26
Other nonresidential bldg.	51	43	43	41	49	59	73	71	65	57	50	44	41
Military facilities	85	78	82	83	90	96	96	93	89	89	78	79	75
Highway	170	125	145	185	300	390	445	440	415	385	320	230	160
Sewer and water	82	70	77	77	84	87	91	94	88	84	80	78	75
Public service enterprises	12	10	12	12	14	19	20	22	22	20	17	15	14
Conservation and													
development	46	40	47	55	59	62	63	65	67	68	64	60	52
All other public	12	10	10	10	10	12	13	15	15	15	15	13	13

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

## COMPOSITION OF REGIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS

NORTHEAST

1. New England
  - Connecticut
  - Maine
  - Massachusetts
  - New Hampshire
  - Rhode Island
  - Vermont
2. Middle Atlantic
  - New Jersey
  - New York
  - Pennsylvania

NORTH CENTRAL

3. E. N. Central
  - Illinois
  - Indiana
  - Michigan
  - Ohio
  - Wisconsin
4. W. N. Central
  - Iowa
  - Kansas
  - Minnesota
  - Missouri
  - Nebraska
  - North Dakota
  - South Dakota

SOUTH

5. S. Atlantic
  - Delaware
  - Dist. of Col.
  - Florida
  - Georgia
  - Maryland
  - N. Carolina
  - S. Carolina
  - Virginia
  - W. Virginia
6. E. S. Central
  - Alabama
  - Kentucky
  - Mississippi
  - Tennessee
7. W. S. Central
  - Arkansas
  - Louisiana
  - Oklahoma
  - Texas

WEST

8. Mountain
  - Arizona
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana
  - New Mexico
  - Nevada
  - Utah
  - Wyoming
9. Pacific
  - California
  - Oregon
  - Washington

## NONFARM POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN 1950

NORTHEAST—29.5 percent.

NORTH CENTRAL—29.0 percent.

SOUTH—27.7 percent.

WEST—13.8 percent.

Chart I.

## New Construction Put in Place

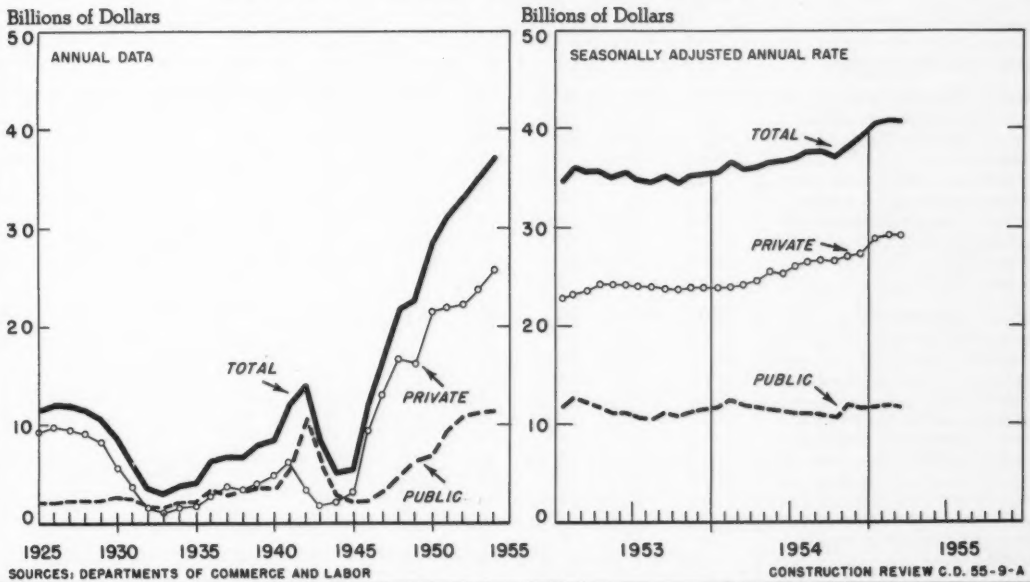


Table 3.--New Construction Put in Place: Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate, by Type of Construction

(Value, in millions of dollars)

Type of construction	Seasonally adjusted annual rate							Annual total	
	1954				1955			1953	1954
	Mar.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		
<b>TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	36,060	37,260	38,304	39,144	40,548	41,112	40,908	35,256	37,170
<b>PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	24,132	26,652	27,108	27,504	28,776	29,196	29,076	23,877	25,720
Residential building (nonfarm) .....	11,868	14,520	14,736	15,144	15,876	15,912	15,612	11,930	13,450
Nonresidential building .....	6,168	6,072	6,312	6,288	6,780	7,200	7,392	5,680	6,189
Industrial .....	2,184	1,824	1,872	1,908	2,112	2,244	2,352	2,229	2,011
Commercial .....	2,112	2,256	2,316	2,268	2,592	2,832	2,868	1,791	2,182
Warehouses, office and loft buildings .....	936	1,008	1,068	1,068	1,080	1,128	1,104	739	964
Stores, restaurants, and garages .....	1,176	1,248	1,248	1,200	1,512	1,704	1,764	1,052	1,218
Other nonresidential building .....	1,872	1,992	2,124	2,112	2,076	2,124	2,172	1,660	1,996
Farm construction .....	1,608	1,512	1,500	1,488	1,488	1,488	1,476	1,731	1,560
Public utility .....	4,392	4,404	4,416	4,416	4,416	4,416	4,416	4,416	4,400
All other private .....	96	144	144	168	216	180	180	120	121
<b>PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	11,928	10,608	11,196	11,640	11,772	11,916	11,832	11,379	11,450
Residential building .....	432	276	264	276	312	288	264	556	345
Nonresidential building .....	4,644	4,224	4,512	4,560	4,500	4,344	4,344	4,352	4,535
Military facilities .....	1,104	900	960	1,080	1,212	1,248	1,260	1,307	1,010
Highway .....	3,600	3,288	3,456	3,660	3,624	3,948	3,852	3,165	3,525
Sewer and water .....	1,032	948	1,044	1,032	1,104	1,092	1,128	861	975
Public service enterprises .....	204	204	192	180	192	180	168	201	200
Conservation and development .....	744	636	648	708	684	636	660	830	710
All other public .....	168	132	120	144	144	180	156	107	150

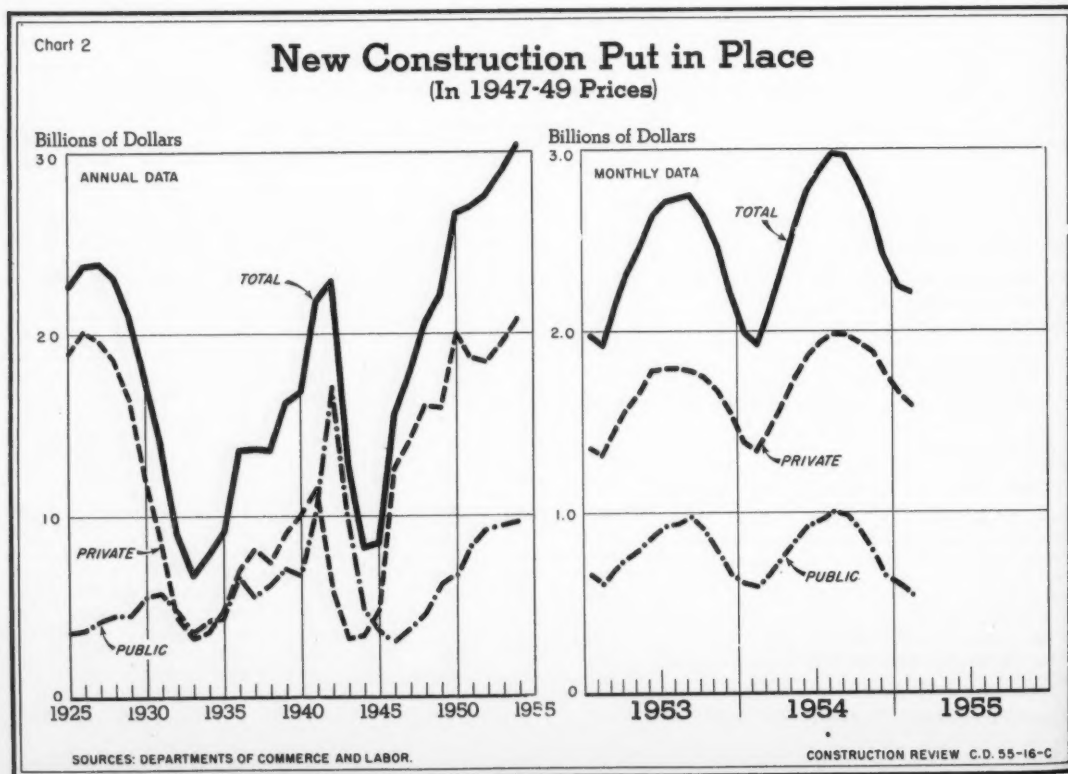
Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 4.--New Construction Put in Place: Value in 1947-49 Prices, by Type of Construction

Type of construction	(Millions of dollars)									
	1955		1954		Year					
	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
<b>TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	2,123	2,243	2,412	1,921	22,177	26,608	26,988	27,662	28,927	30,436
<b>PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	1,589	1,651	1,767	1,336	15,956	19,885	18,677	18,428	19,442	20,809
Residential building (nonfarm) .....	851	914	1,002	634	8,128	11,634	9,457	9,311	9,840	11,175
Nonresidential building .....	436	432	426	385	3,124	3,566	4,494	4,211	4,646	4,989
Industrial .....	149	148	137	143	954	1,004	1,790	1,909	1,806	1,620
Warehouses, office & loft bldgs. ....	69	71	74	62	313	396	500	461	632	815
Stores, restaurants, & garages ....	90	81	77	67	677	828	733	525	857	967
Other nonresidential buildings ..	128	132	138	113	1,180	1,338	1,471	1,316	1,351	1,587
Farm construction .....	82	78	79	91	1,479	1,583	1,616	1,643	1,484	1,331
Public utility .....	211	217	251	221	3,151	3,001	3,056	3,194	3,380	3,224
All other private .....	9	10	9	5	74	101	54	69	92	90
<b>PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION</b> .....	534	592	645	585	6,221	6,723	8,311	9,234	9,485	9,627
Residential building .....	17	19	18	28	353	321	512	550	459	288
Nonresidential building .....	239	261	268	277	1,990	2,237	3,050	3,465	3,533	3,621
Industrial .....	54	70	80	112	173	212	821	1,384	1,434	1,208
Educational .....	133	138	137	120	897	1,061	1,337	1,375	1,406	1,643
Hospital and institutional .....	18	19	19	18	458	467	466	401	287	278
Other nonresidential building ....	34	34	32	27	462	497	426	305	406	492
Military facilities .....	65	69	70	59	134	171	788	1,195	1,104	854
Highway .....	119	138	178	118	2,128	2,367	2,349	2,489	2,856	3,371
Sewer and water .....	51	56	56	52	586	590	655	639	664	718
Public service enterprises .....	7	8	8	9	190	164	168	148	147	140
Conservation and development .....	29	34	40	34	750	786	721	694	639	524
All other public .....	7	7	7	8	90	87	68	54	83	111

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.





## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table 5.--New Public Construction Put in Place, by Source of Funds, Ownership, and Type of Construction

Source of funds, ownership, and type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)								Percent change		
	1954			1955			First 3 months		Mar. 1955 from--		First 3 months, 1954 to 1955
	Mar.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	1954	1955	Mar. 1954	Feb. 1955	
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION....</b>	788	938	783	726	658	768	2,231	2,152	- 3	+17	- 4
Federal funds .....	317	323	283	257	225	256	923	738	-19	+14	-20
Direct Federal .....	279	265	246	224	192	218	818	634	-22	+14	-22
Federal grants-in-aid <sup>1</sup> .....	38	58	37	33	33	38	105	104	0	+15	- 1
State and local funds .....	471	615	500	469	433	512	1,308	1,414	+ 9	+18	+ 8
<b>FEDERALLY OWNED.....</b>	279	265	246	224	192	218	818	634	-22	+14	-22
Residential building .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-100
Nonresidential building .....	148	110	104	92	72	84	444	248	-43	+17	-44
Industrial .....	140	103	100	88	68	79	423	235	-44	+16	-44
Educational .....	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	-100	0	-100
Hospital .....	3	2	2	2	2	2	11	6	-33	0	-45
Other nonresidential .....	4	4	2	2	2	3	9	7	-25	+50	-22
Military facilities .....	75	90	83	82	78	85	217	245	+13	+ 9	+13
Highway .....	3	6	4	3	2	3	8	8	0	+50	0
Conservation and development .....	52	59	55	47	40	46	147	133	-12	+15	-10
All other federally owned .....	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-100	0	-100
<b>STATE AND LOCALLY OWNED.....</b>	509	673	537	502	466	550	1,413	1,518	+ 8	+18	+ 7
Residential building .....	34	23	22	23	21	21	104	65	-38	0	-38
Nonresidential building .....	217	248	235	238	232	256	620	726	+18	+10	+17
Educational .....	157	178	174	175	170	185	457	530	+18	+ 9	+16
Hospital .....	23	25	22	22	21	23	61	66	0	+10	+ 8
Other nonresidential .....	37	45	39	41	41	48	102	130	+30	+17	+27
Highway .....	157	294	181	142	123	167	407	432	+ 6	+36	+ 6
Sewer and water .....	75	84	77	77	70	82	212	229	+ 9	+17	+ 8
All other State and locally owned .....	26	24	22	22	20	24	70	66	- 8	+20	- 6

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Construction programs currently receiving Federal grants-in-aid cover highways, schools, hospitals, airports, and miscellaneous community facilities.

## Part II--New Housing

Table 6.--New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started, by Ownership, Location, and Type of Structure

Period	Total	Ownership		Location <sup>1</sup>		Type of structure			
		Private	Public	Metro- politan	Nonmetro- politan	1-family houses	Units in 2-or-more family structures		
							All	2-4 family	5-or-more family
NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS (in thousands)									
Year: 1946.....	670.5	662.5	8.0	(2)	(2)	590.0	80.5	(3)	(3)
1947.....	849.0	845.6	3.4	(2)	(2)	740.2	108.8	(3)	(3)
1948.....	931.6	913.5	18.1	(2)	(2)	766.6	165.0	(3)	(3)
1949.....	1,025.1	988.8	36.3	(2)	(2)	794.3	230.8	(3)	(3)
1950.....	1,396.0	1,352.2	43.8	1,021.6	374.4	1,154.1	241.9	(3)	(3)
1951.....	1,091.3	1,020.1	71.2	776.8	314.5	900.1	191.2	(3)	(3)
1952.....	1,127.0	1,068.5	58.5	794.9	332.1	942.5	184.5	(3)	(3)
1953.....	1,103.8	1,068.3	35.5	803.5	300.3	937.8	166.0	(3)	(3)
1954.....	1,220.8	1,201.4	19.4	895.7	325.1	<sup>4</sup> (998.4)	<sup>4</sup> (131.4)	<sup>4</sup> (46.9)	<sup>4</sup> (84.5)
First 2 months, 1954.....	141.6	139.0	2.6	103.2	38.4	117.8	23.8	7.4	16.4
First 2 months, 1955.....	178.0	176.4	1.6	130.4	47.6	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
1954: February.....	75.2	73.9	1.3	53.5	21.7	64.7	10.5	3.5	7.0
March.....	95.2	93.2	2.0	71.1	24.1	83.2	12.0	4.1	7.9
April.....	107.7	106.5	1.2	79.4	28.3	96.1	11.6	4.6	7.0
May.....	108.5	107.4	1.1	77.1	31.4	97.7	10.8	4.2	6.6
June.....	116.5	112.6	3.9	87.5	29.0	102.0	14.5	4.3	10.2
July.....	116.0	112.9	3.1	87.5	28.5	101.6	14.4	4.4	10.0
August.....	114.3	113.0	1.3	82.6	31.7	103.0	11.3	4.4	6.9
September.....	115.7	113.4	2.3	82.7	33.0	103.9	11.8	4.5	7.3
October.....	110.7	110.5	.2	80.4	30.3	100.3	10.4	4.5	5.9
November.....	103.6	103.3	.3	75.7	27.9	92.8	10.8	4.5	6.3
December.....	91.0	89.6	1.4	68.5	22.5	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
1955: January.....	88.0	87.8	.2	65.6	22.4	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
February.....	90.0	88.6	1.4	64.8	25.2	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Percent change									
First 2 months, 1954-55.....	+25.7	+26.9	-38.5	+26.4	+24.0	--	--	--	--
January-February, 1955.....	+ 2.3	+ .9	(6)	- 1.2	+12.5	--	--	--	--
February 1954-55.....	+19.7	+19.9	+ 7.7	+21.1	+16.1	--	--	--	--
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Year: 1946.....	100	98.8	1.2	--	--	88.0	12.0	--	--
1947.....	100	99.6	.4	--	--	87.2	12.8	--	--
1948.....	100	98.1	1.9	--	--	82.3	17.7	--	--
1949.....	100	96.5	3.5	--	--	77.5	22.5	--	--
1950.....	100	96.9	3.1	73.2	26.8	82.7	17.3	--	--
1951.....	100	93.5	6.5	71.2	28.8	82.5	17.5	--	--
1952.....	100	94.8	5.2	70.5	29.5	83.6	16.4	--	--
1953.....	100	96.8	3.2	72.8	27.2	85.0	15.0	--	--
1954.....	100	98.4	1.6	73.4	26.6	<sup>4</sup> (88.4)	<sup>4</sup> (11.6)	<sup>4</sup> (4.1)	<sup>4</sup> (7.5)
First 2 months, 1954.....	100	98.2	1.8	72.9	27.1	83.2	16.8	5.2	11.6
First 2 months, 1955.....	100	99.1	.9	73.3	26.7	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
1954: February.....	100	98.3	1.7	71.1	28.9	86.0	14.0	4.7	9.3
March.....	100	97.9	2.1	74.7	25.3	87.4	12.6	4.3	8.3
April.....	100	98.9	1.1	73.7	26.3	89.2	10.8	4.3	6.5
May.....	100	99.0	1.0	71.1	28.9	90.0	10.0	3.9	6.1
June.....	100	96.7	3.3	75.1	24.9	87.6	12.4	3.7	8.7
July.....	100	97.3	2.7	75.4	24.6	87.6	12.4	3.8	8.6
August.....	100	98.9	1.1	72.3	27.7	90.1	9.9	3.9	6.0
September.....	100	98.0	2.0	71.5	28.5	89.8	10.2	3.9	6.3
October.....	100	99.8	.2	72.6	27.4	90.6	9.4	4.1	5.3
November.....	100	99.7	.3	73.1	26.9	89.6	10.4	4.3	6.1
December.....	100	98.5	1.5	75.3	24.7	--	--	--	--
1955: January.....	100	99.8	.2	74.5	25.5	--	--	--	--
February.....	100	98.4	1.6	72.0	28.0	--	--	--	--

Source: Department of Labor. <sup>1</sup> Data by urban and rural-nonfarm classification for 1920-53 are available upon request. <sup>2</sup> Annual data not available before 1950; monthly data not available before January 1953. <sup>3</sup> Not available before January 1954. Tabulations showing the number of units in 2-family and 3-or-more family structures for 1920-53 are available upon request. <sup>4</sup> Total for first 11 months.

<sup>5</sup> Not available.

<sup>6</sup> Percent change exceeds 300.

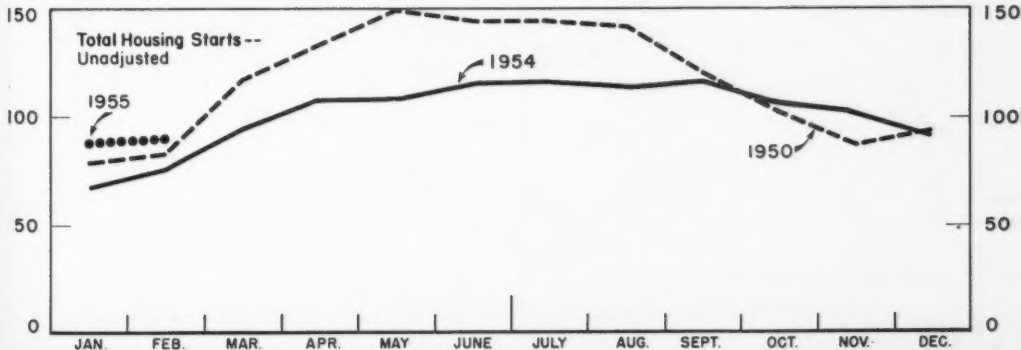
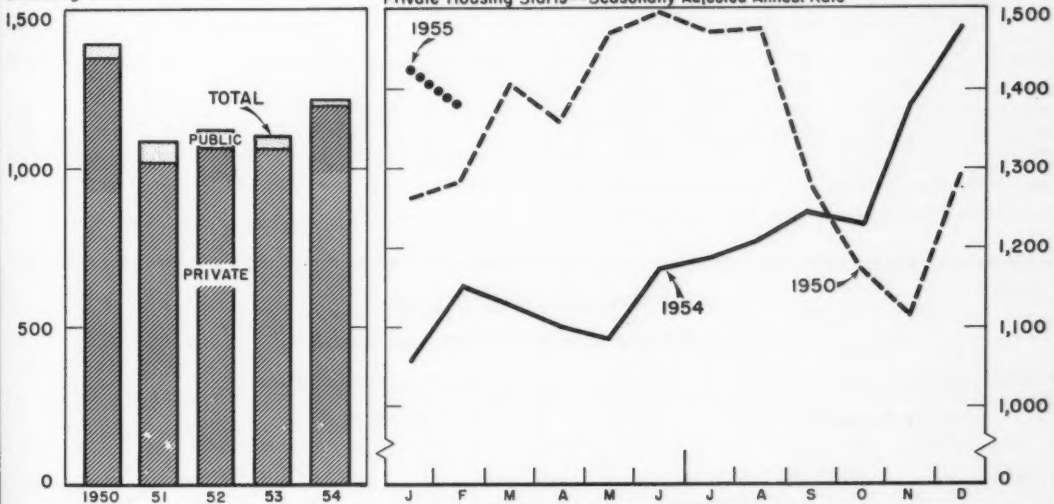
Table 7.--New Private Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started: Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

Year	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1946.....	598	661	752	693	677	655	645	663	634	658	643	646
1947.....	619	667	679	694	735	803	854	923	1,029	1,089	1,064	962
1948.....	851	762	925	1,015	1,000	1,008	986	912	886	838	827	812
1949.....	751	745	792	879	920	950	976	1,035	1,108	1,187	1,259	1,266
1950.....	1,262	1,283	1,406	1,358	1,469	1,496	1,471	1,476	1,278	1,174	1,115	1,292
1951.....	1,333	1,192	1,093	955	984	942	914	946	1,049	1,036	973	978
1952.....	996	1,158	1,104	1,003	1,018	1,011	1,064	1,044	1,092	1,156	1,110	1,111
1953.....	1,106	1,150	1,165	1,111	1,065	1,064	1,015	988	1,014	1,050	1,077	1,060
1954.....	1,056	1,152	1,130	1,102	1,083	1,175	1,188	1,211	1,248	1,287	1,393	1,473
1955.....	1,424	1,381	(1)									

Source: Department of Labor. <sup>1</sup> Not yet available.

Chart 3

## Housing Starts (Annual and Monthly)

Thousands of  
Dwelling UnitsThousands of  
Dwelling Units

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 8.--New Private 1-Family Houses Started: Average Construction Cost

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
AVERAGE CONSTRUCTION COST													
1946.....	\$5,250	\$5,400	\$5,850	\$5,575	\$5,475	\$5,425	\$5,375	\$5,450	\$5,450	\$5,625	\$5,675	\$5,575	\$5,525
1947.....	5,700	5,825	6,150	6,275	6,250	6,450	6,725	6,950	7,025	7,275	7,525	7,650	6,750
1948.....	7,250	7,450	7,550	7,775	7,950	8,050	8,050	8,100	7,900	7,825	7,900	7,900	7,850
1949.....	7,650	7,525	7,450	7,500	7,650	7,675	7,525	7,650	7,725	7,675	7,675	7,625	7,625
1950.....	7,625	7,850	8,225	8,450	8,450	8,750	8,875	9,125	8,900	9,200	9,075	9,200	8,675
1951.....	9,100	9,250	9,175	9,325	9,475	9,475	9,400	9,300	9,450	9,225	9,250	9,125	9,300
1952.....	9,050	9,275	9,350	9,550	9,575	9,675	9,500	9,425	9,600	9,525	9,550	9,525	9,475
1953.....	9,400	9,600	9,800	10,000	9,900	10,000	10,125	10,175	10,200	10,175	9,975	10,000	9,950
1954.....	9,750	9,800	10,075	10,600	10,850	10,750	10,850	10,750	10,675	10,800	10,850	(1)	--
Percent change, 1953 to 1954													
	+3.7	+2.1	+2.8	+6.0	+9.6	+7.5	+7.2	+5.7	+4.7	+6.1	+8.8	--	--

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Not yet available.Table 9.--New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started, by Region <sup>1</sup>

Region	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)										Percent distribution, first 11 months, 1954
	1954										
	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	First 11 months, 1954	
TOTAL.....	95.2	107.7	108.5	116.5	116.0	114.3	115.7	110.7	103.6	1,129.8	100.0
Northeast .....	21.1	21.7	21.6	24.0	25.3	24.8	22.4	21.6	19.0	227.8	20.2
North Central .....	23.2	31.1	32.9	34.4	33.3	32.6	31.9	30.1	26.8	305.8	27.1
South .....	29.0	29.3	30.0	31.6	32.2	31.7	36.0	31.8	31.5	331.7	29.3
West .....	21.9	25.6	24.0	26.5	25.2	25.2	25.4	27.2	26.3	264.5	23.4

Source: Department of Labor.

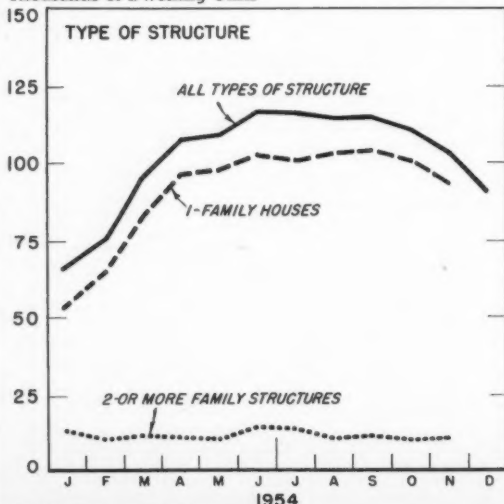
<sup>1</sup> Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown under table 2.

Chart 4

## Housing Starts

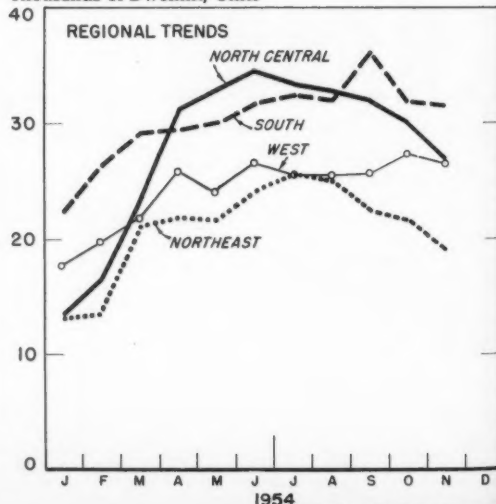
(Type of Structure and Regional Trends)

Thousands of Dwelling Units



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Thousands of Dwelling Units



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Table 10.--New Private Nonfarm Dwelling Units: Mortgages Applied for, Appraisals requested, and Units Started Under FHA and VA Programs

Period	FHA-insured units		VA-guaranteed units <sup>1</sup>		Nonfarm dwelling units started		
	In applications	Started	In appraisal requests	Started	U. S. total	FHA-assisted	VA-assisted
	NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
Year: 1950.....	397,696	486,681	(2)	200,000	100	36	15
1951.....	192,759	263,523	164,365	148,634	100	26	15
1952.....	267,915	279,901	226,299	141,274	100	26	13
1953.....	253,726	251,969	251,437	156,616	100	24	15
1954.....	338,581	276,307	535,412	307,018	100	23	26
First 2 months, 1954....	35,015	29,439	54,531	25,722	100	21	19
First 2 months, 1955....	54,439	37,215	110,396	54,117	100	21	31
1954: February.....	20,008	16,285	34,407	14,161	100	22	19
March.....	28,055	20,528	36,501	15,909	100	22	17
April.....	32,333	23,807	42,928	19,821	100	22	19
May.....	30,327	24,004	52,245	24,991	100	22	23
June.....	35,207	27,666	52,749	27,891	100	25	25
July.....	30,143	25,430	52,291	26,810	100	23	24
August.....	32,166	26,999	55,350	33,251	100	24	30
September.....	34,831	25,882	51,265	33,938	100	23	30
October.....	29,325	24,665	45,572	33,501	100	22	30
November.....	26,851	26,344	47,729	36,037	100	26	35
December.....	24,328	21,543	44,251	29,147	100	24	33
1955: January.....	26,065	20,021	46,204	26,069	100	23	30
February.....	28,374	17,194	64,192	28,049	100	19	32
	Percent change: First 2 months, 1954-55						
	+55	+26	+102	+110			

Source: Table compiled by Department of Labor from data reported by the Federal Housing Administration (HHFA) and the Veterans Administration. <sup>1</sup> Almost all in 1-4 family structures. <sup>2</sup> Not available.

Table 11.--Nonfarm Mortgage Recordings of \$20,000 or Less: Number and Average Amount, and Total Amount by Type of Lender

Period	Total number (in thousands)	Average amount (dollars)	Total amount (in millions of dollars) recorded by--					
			All lenders	Savings and loan associations	Insurance companies	Commercial banks	Mutual savings banks	Individuals
Year: 1950.....	3,032	5,535	16,179	5,060	1,618	3,365	1,064	2,774
1951.....	2,878	5,701	16,405	5,295	1,615	3,370	1,013	2,572
1952.....	3,028	5,950	18,018	6,452	1,420	3,600	1,137	2,651
1953.....	3,164	6,241	19,747	7,365	1,480	3,680	1,327	3,055
1954.....	3,458	6,644	22,974	8,312	1,768	4,239	1,501	4,272
1954: January.....	218	6,292	1,372	467	108	263	85	238
February.....	229	6,223	1,425	517	105	274	85	236
March.....	281	6,339	1,784	666	124	335	103	314
April.....	280	6,411	1,793	669	130	333	112	310
May.....	278	6,484	1,804	675	124	330	118	327
June.....	303	6,573	1,990	741	146	368	133	352
July.....	306	6,624	2,027	734	155	371	141	374
August.....	312	6,684	2,086	770	166	369	138	391
September.....	313	6,789	2,122	766	164	383	141	417
October.....	314	6,874	2,156	765	178	393	140	431
November.....	307	7,004	2,148	757	177	399	147	420
December.....	318	7,131	2,267	784	191	420	158	462
1955: January.....	284	7,120	2,024	688	165	379	128	419
	Percent change: January, 1954-55							
	+30	+13	+48	+47	+53	+44	+51	+76

Source: Table compiled by Department of Labor from data reported by the Home Loan Bank Board (HHFA).



## Part III--Building Permits

Table 12.--Building Permit Activity: Current Summary, by Type of Building

Type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)				Percent change, February 1955 from--	
	1955		1954		January 1955	February 1954
	February	January	December	February		
All building construction <sup>1</sup> .....	1,214.8	1,125.8	1,224.3	975.6	+ 8	+25
Private .....	1,099.8	1,040.2	1,097.6	847.8	+ 6	+30
Public .....	115.0	85.6	126.7	127.8	+34	-10
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup> .....	734.9	704.2	727.6	571.0	+ 4	+29
New dwelling units (Number) .....	(78,082)	(76,541)	(77,260)	(66,148)	(+ 2)	(+18)
New nonresidential building .....	365.4	317.9	389.5	300.0	+15	+22
Commercial buildings .....	122.4	106.8	142.9	93.8	+15	+30
Stores and other mercantile buildings ....	67.5	57.1	70.2	52.2	+18	+29
All other commercial buildings .....	54.9	49.7	72.7	41.7	+10	+32
Community buildings .....	130.5	118.8	138.9	112.9	+10	+16
Industrial buildings .....	44.5	44.7	50.7	28.7	(3)	+55
All other nonresidential buildings .....	62.9	47.6	56.9	64.6	+32	- 3
Additions, alterations, and repairs .....	100.2	94.8	94.0	98.0	+ 6	+ 2

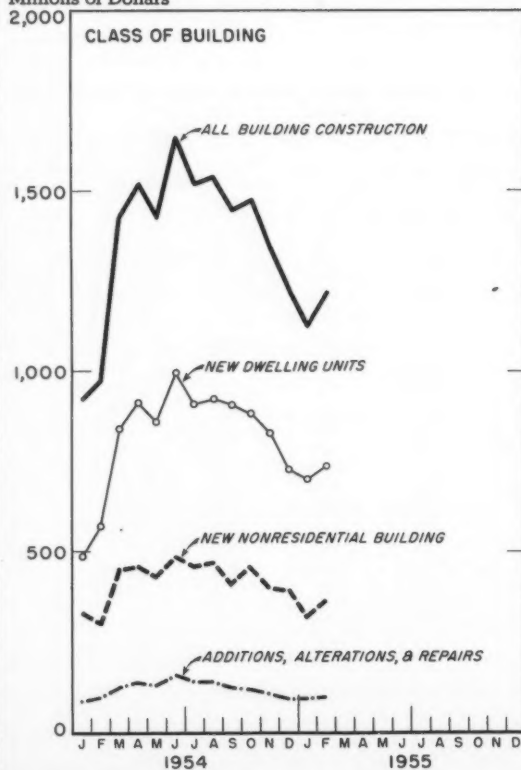
Source: Department of Labor. <sup>1</sup> Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately. <sup>2</sup> Housekeeping only.

<sup>3</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.

Chart 5

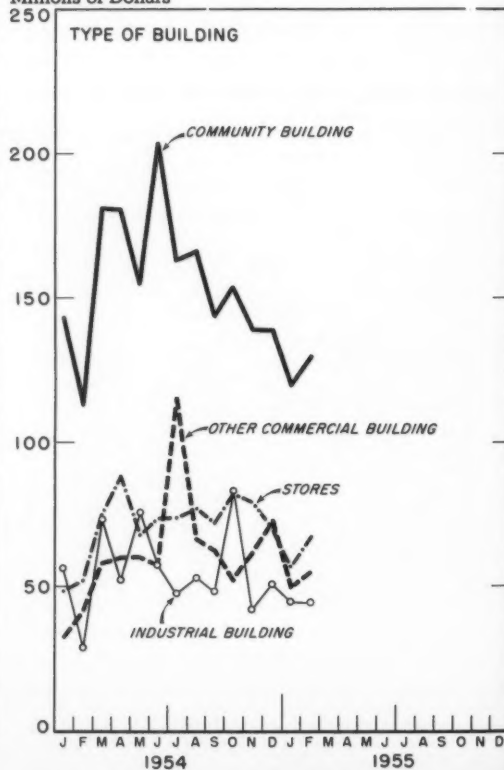
### Building Permit Activity

Millions of Dollars



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

Millions of Dollars



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Table 13.--Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Class of Construction, Type of Building, and Region <sup>1</sup>

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)					Percent change, January 1954-55
	1954				1955	
	Jan.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
UNITED STATES						
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	910.9	1,471.5	1,345.2	1,224.3	1,125.8	+ 24
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	484.6	881.6	830.1	727.6	704.2	+ 45
New nonresidential building.....	329.0	457.0	398.3	389.5	317.9	- 3
Commercial buildings.....	80.8	134.5	141.2	142.9	106.8	+ 32
Amusement buildings.....	4.0	8.3	5.0	7.0	6.2	+ 52
Commercial garages.....	1.9	7.8	4.3	3.4	5.0	+163
Gasoline and service stations.....	6.3	10.6	10.8	9.0	8.8	+ 40
Office buildings.....	20.2	25.8	41.8	53.4	29.8	+ 48
Stores and other mercantile buildings	48.4	82.1	79.4	70.2	57.1	+ 18
Community buildings.....	143.0	153.8	139.0	138.9	118.8	- 17
Educational buildings.....	95.2	96.7	80.6	96.7	74.9	- 21
Institutional buildings.....	28.5	18.7	28.5	19.9	21.7	- 24
Religious buildings.....	19.3	38.4	29.8	22.2	22.2	+ 15
Garage, private residential.....	4.8	17.6	13.0	6.8	5.7	+ 19
Industrial buildings.....	56.3	82.9	42.1	50.7	44.7	- 21
Public buildings.....	14.4	28.6	35.9	18.4	16.6	+ 15
Public utilities buildings.....	12.4	20.3	12.7	20.0	13.2	+ 6
All other nonresidential buildings.....	17.3	19.1	14.4	11.7	12.1	- 30
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	86.6	120.3	108.7	94.0	94.8	+ 9
Northeast						
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	219.1	298.2	287.4	254.0	247.5	+ 13
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	112.8	174.7	167.0	139.3	141.8	+ 26
New nonresidential building.....	87.5	96.6	96.0	93.5	84.4	- 4
Commercial buildings.....	16.8	27.3	32.8	31.9	24.5	+ 46
Amusement buildings.....	1.4	2.2	.9	3.1	2.0	+ 43
Commercial garages.....	.8	1.9	.8	.7	2.9	+263
Gasoline and service stations.....	1.1	1.5	2.2	1.4	1.3	+ 18
Office buildings.....	3.4	6.5	14.2	14.6	10.1	+197
Stores and other mercantile buildings	10.0	15.2	14.7	12.1	8.2	- 18
Community buildings.....	33.5	41.1	26.9	42.5	44.1	+ 32
Educational buildings.....	20.5	22.3	16.4	32.0	30.0	+ 46
Institutional buildings.....	7.7	11.6	5.3	6.7	9.9	+ 29
Religious buildings.....	5.4	7.1	5.2	3.7	4.2	- 22
Garage, private residential.....	.7	4.3	3.1	1.9	1.2	+ 71
Industrial buildings.....	28.5	13.0	10.0	10.2	8.0	- 72
Public buildings.....	4.5	2.9	16.4	3.1	.7	- 84
Public utilities buildings.....	1.0	4.7	2.0	2.1	2.8	+180
All other nonresidential buildings.....	2.5	3.3	4.8	1.9	3.0	+ 20
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	18.0	25.7	23.4	20.0	19.5	+ 8
North Central						
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	220.4	435.2	385.8	326.4	238.5	+ 8
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	114.7	268.1	237.9	181.0	142.4	+ 24
New nonresidential building.....	85.4	126.8	117.8	117.0	74.3	- 13
Commercial buildings.....	16.4	38.6	35.2	40.3	27.3	+ 66
Amusement buildings.....	1.2	2.3	1.2	1.2	2.7	+125
Commercial garages.....	.5	3.1	2.1	2.0	.5	0
Gasoline and service stations.....	1.4	3.9	3.2	2.0	2.3	+ 64
Office buildings.....	3.0	7.0	11.2	14.3	4.8	+ 60
Stores and other mercantile buildings	10.4	22.3	17.5	20.7	17.1	+ 64
Community buildings.....	39.9	42.2	42.6	36.7	21.1	- 47
Educational buildings.....	27.0	27.1	32.3	25.7	12.7	- 53
Institutional buildings.....	7.5	3.9	2.1	4.1	1.5	- 80
Religious buildings.....	5.4	11.2	8.3	6.9	6.9	+ 28
Garage, private residential.....	1.2	8.9	6.1	2.2	1.6	+ 33
Industrial buildings.....	13.2	21.6	14.2	26.8	15.3	+ 16
Public buildings.....	3.6	5.9	12.8	4.3	1.9	- 47
Public utilities buildings.....	4.9	6.3	3.6	4.1	6.3	+ 29
All other nonresidential buildings.....	6.1	3.1	3.3	2.5	.8	- 87
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	18.8	37.8	28.4	23.5	20.6	+ 10

See footnotes at end of table.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 13.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Class of Construction, Type of Building, and Region <sup>1</sup>—Continued

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)					Percent change, January 1954-55
	1954				1955	
	Jan.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
	South					
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	252.9	386.2	339.7	320.0	342.8	+ 36
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	124.9	210.7	206.8	184.0	208.0	+ 67
New nonresidential building.....	94.1	144.1	102.6	106.5	101.1	+ 7
Commercial buildings.....	30.3	41.1	38.2	45.3	30.9	+ 2
Amusement buildings.....	.6	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.0	+ 67
Commercial garages.....	.4	1.6	.6	.2	1.3	+225
Gasoline and service stations.....	2.6	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.3	+ 27
Office buildings.....	9.0	5.7	11.2	17.9	8.0	- 11
Stores and other mercantile buildings	17.7	29.2	21.5	21.8	17.2	- 3
Community buildings.....	42.4	44.3	50.2	38.3	36.4	- 14
Educational buildings.....	24.1	26.4	20.9	21.5	18.8	- 22
Institutional buildings.....	11.6	2.5	19.7	7.2	9.5	- 18
Religious buildings.....	6.7	15.4	9.6	9.6	8.1	+ 21
Garage, private residential.....	1.0	1.5	1.4	.9	1.2	+ 20
Industrial buildings.....	5.4	38.1	5.9	5.2	11.7	+117
Public buildings.....	4.0	7.7	2.5	6.9	12.7	+218
Public utilities buildings.....	5.6	7.8	2.3	7.7	3.6	- 36
All other nonresidential buildings.....	5.3	3.7	2.1	2.2	4.6	- 13
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	27.8	29.2	29.0	26.3	31.8	+ 14
	West					
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	218.5	351.9	332.4	323.9	296.9	+ 36
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	132.2	228.1	218.3	223.3	212.0	+ 60
New nonresidential building.....	62.0	89.6	82.0	72.5	58.0	- 6
Commercial buildings.....	17.3	27.6	35.0	25.5	24.1	+ 39
Amusement buildings.....	.7	2.3	1.3	.8	.6	- 14
Commercial garages.....	.3	1.2	.8	.5	.3	0
Gasoline and service stations.....	1.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.8	+ 50
Office buildings.....	4.8	6.6	5.2	6.6	6.8	+ 42
Stores and other mercantile buildings	10.2	15.4	25.7	15.6	14.5	+ 42
Community buildings.....	27.2	26.2	19.2	21.4	17.2	- 37
Educational buildings.....	23.7	20.9	11.0	17.6	13.4	- 43
Institutional buildings.....	1.7	.7	1.4	1.9	.8	- 53
Religious buildings.....	1.8	4.7	6.8	2.0	3.0	+ 67
Garage, private residential.....	1.8	2.9	2.4	1.8	1.8	0
Industrial buildings.....	9.2	10.2	12.0	8.5	9.6	+ 4
Public buildings.....	2.3	12.1	4.2	4.2	1.3	- 43
Public utilities buildings.....	.9	1.6	4.9	6.1	.4	- 56
All other nonresidential buildings.....	3.4	9.0	4.2	5.0	3.7	+ 9
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	22.0	27.6	28.0	24.2	22.9	+ 4

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown under table 2. <sup>2</sup> Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately. <sup>3</sup> Housekeeping only.

**BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WEEK**

Statewide observance of Building Construction Week will occur for the first time in New Jersey during May 14-20. Programs for the week will acquaint the general public with activities of architects, general contractors, engineers, subcontractors, specialty contractors, materials suppliers, and labor trades in the growth and progress of the construction industry throughout the State.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table 13-A.—Building Permit Activity: Metropolitan Area Proportion of 1954 Valuation, by Class of Construction, Type of Building, and Region<sup>1</sup>

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation, all places (in millions of dollars)	Percent in metropolitan areas	Metropolitan areas		
			Valuation (in millions of dollars)	Percent--	
				In, central cities	Outside central cities
UNITED STATES					
All building construction <sup>2</sup>	16,464.9	80	13,161.1	39	61
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup>	9,854.5	82	8,106.4	30	70
New nonresidential building	5,005.8	76	3,819.3	50	50
Commercial buildings	1,591.5	80	1,279.8	55	45
Amusement buildings	97.6	74	72.3	57	43
Commercial garages	60.1	87	52.4	77	23
Gasoline and service stations	119.9	62	74.2	45	55
Office buildings	454.6	87	393.4	69	31
Stores and other mercantile buildings	859.3	80	687.5	46	54
Community buildings	1,870.5	73	1,360.8	53	47
Educational buildings	1,173.6	72	841.3	47	53
Institutional buildings	335.5	76	253.5	74	26
Religious buildings	361.5	74	266.0	53	47
Garage, private residential	166.4	79	131.6	36	64
Industrial buildings	662.3	80	528.8	35	65
Public buildings	304.6	69	210.1	54	46
Public utilities buildings	209.4	74	155.2	48	52
All other nonresidential buildings	201.1	76	153.0	49	51
Additions, alterations, and repairs	1,468.4	79	1,154.3	61	39
Northeast					
All building construction <sup>2</sup>	3,657.1	90	3,273.9	31	69
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup>	2,157.1	90	1,933.8	22	78
New nonresidential building	1,145.5	90	1,034.3	42	58
Commercial buildings	355.3	92	325.2	46	54
Amusement buildings	23.1	80	18.4	43	57
Commercial garages	17.7	89	15.8	62	38
Gasoline and service stations	20.9	83	17.3	31	69
Office buildings	128.2	97	123.9	64	36
Stores and other mercantile buildings	165.4	91	149.7	31	69
Community buildings	439.2	89	390.1	41	59
Educational buildings	281.2	88	248.4	39	61
Institutional buildings	86.1	90	77.5	55	45
Religious buildings	71.9	89	64.1	32	68
Garage, private residential	38.5	83	31.9	14	86
Industrial buildings	156.1	93	145.2	31	69
Public buildings	87.7	92	80.6	69	31
Public utilities buildings	31.0	88	27.4	34	66
All other nonresidential buildings	37.8	90	33.9	40	60
Additions, alterations, and repairs	335.9	88	294.1	51	49
North Central					
All building construction <sup>2</sup>	4,834.3	81	3,917.8	36	64
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup>	2,905.8	84	2,432.5	26	74
New nonresidential building	1,489.2	77	1,143.1	48	52
Commercial buildings	446.1	82	366.6	49	51
Amusement buildings	28.3	75	21.2	66	34
Commercial garages	23.9	91	21.7	84	16
Gasoline and service stations	38.1	64	24.4	48	52
Office buildings	113.8	87	98.6	53	47
Stores and other mercantile buildings	242.0	83	200.7	42	58
Community buildings	528.9	70	372.7	54	46
Educational buildings	337.3	69	232.1	46	54
Institutional buildings	81.7	73	59.6	89	11
Religious buildings	109.9	74	81.0	54	46
Garage, private residential	81.6	81	66.0	38	62
Industrial buildings	222.2	83	184.4	33	67
Public buildings	69.1	75	51.8	58	42
Public utilities buildings	90.7	71	64.8	41	59
All other nonresidential buildings	50.6	72	36.6	71	29
Additions, alterations, and repairs	404.0	78	316.4	64	36

See footnotes at end of table.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 13-A.--Building Permit Activity: Metropolitan Area Proportion of 1954 Valuation, by Class of Construction, Type of Building, and Region <sup>1</sup>—Continued

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation, all places (in millions of dollars)	Percent in metropolitan areas	Metropolitan areas		
			Valuation (in millions of dollars)	Percent--	
				In central cities	Outside cen- tral cities
			South		
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	4,133.0	71	2,954.7	56	44
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	2,340.3	74	1,730.0	46	54
New nonresidential building.....	1,363.1	67	914.4	68	32
Commercial buildings.....	473.5	73	347.2	75	25
Amusement buildings.....	26.5	72	19.2	73	27
Commercial garages.....	10.7	80	8.6	83	17
Gasoline and service stations.....	37.2	52	19.5	58	42
Office buildings.....	128.3	82	105.0	94	6
Stores and other mercantile buildings...	270.7	72	194.8	67	33
Community buildings.....	533.5	65	347.8	72	28
Educational buildings.....	287.1	62	178.0	63	37
Institutional buildings.....	123.4	72	88.4	88	12
Religious buildings.....	123.0	66	81.5	73	27
Garage, private residential.....	17.4	71	12.4	55	45
Industrial buildings.....	167.0	60	100.4	47	53
Public buildings.....	74.6	52	38.9	33	67
Public utilities buildings.....	50.5	80	40.6	82	18
All other nonresidential buildings.....	46.5	58	27.0	54	46
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	391.2	72	281.7	77	23
			West		
All building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	3,840.4	78	3,014.7	34	66
New dwelling units <sup>3</sup> .....	2,451.2	82	2,010.1	28	72
New nonresidential building.....	1,007.9	72	727.5	43	57
Commercial buildings.....	316.7	76	240.7	48	52
Amusement buildings.....	19.8	68	13.4	37	63
Commercial garages.....	7.7	82	6.3	81	19
Gasoline and service stations.....	23.7	55	13.0	39	61
Office buildings.....	84.3	78	65.8	64	36
Stores and other mercantile buildings...	181.2	78	142.2	41	59
Community buildings.....	368.9	68	250.2	44	56
Educational buildings.....	268.0	68	182.7	42	58
Institutional buildings.....	44.3	63	28.0	57	43
Religious buildings.....	56.6	70	39.4	45	55
Garage, private residential.....	28.8	74	21.3	50	50
Industrial buildings.....	117.0	84	98.7	33	67
Public buildings.....	73.3	53	38.8	41	59
Public utilities buildings.....	37.2	60	22.4	25	75
All other nonresidential buildings.....	66.1	84	55.4	38	62
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	337.3	78	262.2	53	47

Source: Department of Labor. <sup>1</sup> Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown under table 2. <sup>2</sup> Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building not shown separately. <sup>3</sup> House-keeping only.



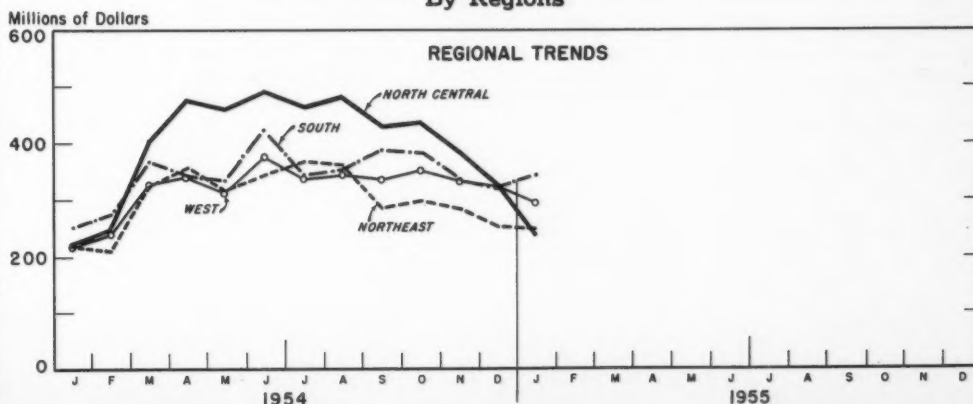
## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 14.--Building Permit Activity: Valuation and Number of New Dwelling Units Authorized, by Type of Structure, Public-Private Ownership, and Region

Ownership and type of structure	(Housekeeping units only)									
	Valuation (in millions of dollars)				Percent change, January 1954-55	Number of dwelling units				Percent change, January 1954-55
	1954		1955	1954		1955				
	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.		Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
	UNITED STATES									
All new dwelling units .....	484.6	830.1	727.6	704.2	+45	56,485	88,008	77,260	76,541	+36
Privately owned .....	467.9	827.2	716.3	701.5	+50	54,665	87,704	75,886	76,212	+39
1-family .....	396.0	767.4	664.9	649.5	+64	43,731	77,842	66,289	67,554	+54
2-4 family .....	20.1	24.1	23.5	19.0	-5	3,475	3,968	4,618	3,317	-5
5-or-more family .....	51.8	35.7	28.0	33.0	-36	7,459	5,894	4,979	5,341	-28
Publicly owned .....	16.7	2.8	11.3	2.7	-84	1,820	304	1,374	329	-82
	Northeast									
All new dwelling units .....	112.8	167.0	139.3	141.8	+26	12,160	15,785	13,831	14,217	+17
Privately owned .....	107.4	167.0	128.0	140.7	+31	11,586	15,785	12,457	14,113	+22
1-family .....	73.6	153.0	116.9	120.5	+64	7,418	13,960	10,837	11,553	+56
2-4 family .....	4.6	4.8	3.7	3.0	-35	640	676	555	447	-30
5-or-more family .....	29.1	9.2	7.3	17.3	-41	3,528	1,149	1,065	2,113	-40
Publicly owned .....	5.4	0	11.3	1.1	-80	574	0	1,374	104	-82
	North Central									
All new dwelling units .....	114.7	237.9	181.0	142.4	+24	10,755	22,175	16,339	13,145	+22
Privately owned .....	104.4	235.1	181.0	142.4	+36	9,655	21,871	16,339	13,145	+36
1-family .....	99.5	221.7	172.4	135.8	+36	8,987	20,185	15,329	12,262	+36
2-4 family .....	3.3	7.5	4.7	3.8	+15	408	878	561	457	+12
5-or-more family .....	1.6	5.9	3.9	2.8	+75	260	808	449	426	+64
Publicly owned .....	10.3	2.8	0	0	-100	1,100	304	0	0	-100
	South									
All new dwelling units .....	124.9	206.8	184.0	208.0	+67	17,489	25,459	22,092	25,776	+47
Privately owned .....	124.9	206.8	184.0	208.0	+67	17,489	25,459	22,092	25,776	+47
1-family .....	113.3	193.5	171.5	198.7	+75	15,255	22,916	19,219	23,557	+54
2-4 family .....	3.8	4.9	6.7	5.1	+34	850	1,038	1,601	1,122	+32
5-or-more family .....	7.8	8.5	5.9	4.2	-46	1,384	1,505	1,272	1,097	-21
Publicly owned .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	West									
All new dwelling units .....	132.2	218.3	223.3	212.0	+60	16,081	24,589	24,998	23,403	+46
Privately owned .....	131.2	218.3	223.3	210.4	+60	15,935	24,589	24,998	23,178	+45
1-family .....	109.6	199.2	204.1	194.6	+78	12,071	20,781	20,904	20,182	+67
2-4 family .....	8.4	7.0	8.3	7.1	-15	1,577	1,376	1,901	1,291	-18
5-or-more family .....	13.3	12.1	10.9	8.7	-35	2,287	2,432	2,193	1,705	-25
Publicly owned .....	1.0	0	0	1.6	+60	146	0	0	225	+54

Source: Department of Labor.  
than \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown under table 2.<sup>2</sup> Less

Chart 6.

Building Permit Activity  
By Regions

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

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## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 14-A.--Metropolitan Area Proportion of New Dwelling Units Authorized in 1954, by Public-Private Ownership, Type of Structure, and Region <sup>1</sup>

(Housekeeping units only)

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation, all places (in millions of dollars)	Percent in metropolitan areas	Metropolitan areas		
			Valuation (in millions of dollars)	Percent--	
				In central cities	Outside cen- tral cities
UNITED STATES					
All new dwelling units.....	9,854.5	82	8,106.4	30	70
Privately owned.....	9,695.2	82	7,955.4	29	71
1-family.....	8,918.3	81	7,238.9	25	75
2-family.....	210.7	86	180.8	52	48
3- and 4-family.....	87.6	84	73.5	43	57
5-or-more family.....	478.7	97	462.2	69	31
Publicly owned.....	159.2	95	151.0	94	6
Northeast					
All new dwelling units.....	2,157.1	90	1,933.8	22	78
Privately owned.....	2,075.5	89	1,856.9	19	81
1-family.....	1,826.0	88	1,615.1	11	89
2-family.....	52.4	93	48.7	48	52
3- and 4-family.....	6.3	63	4.0	28	72
5-or-more family.....	190.8	99	189.0	77	23
Publicly owned.....	81.5	94	77.0	93	7
North Central					
All new dwelling units.....	2,905.8	84	2,432.5	26	74
Privately owned.....	2,867.8	84	2,396.2	25	75
1-family.....	2,724.1	83	2,261.6	23	77
2-family.....	54.8	91	49.8	56	44
3- and 4-family.....	21.8	91	19.8	64	36
5-or-more family.....	67.1	97	65.1	67	33
Publicly owned.....	38.0	96	36.3	97	3
South					
All new dwelling units.....	2,340.3	74	1,730.0	46	54
Privately owned.....	2,316.8	74	1,708.2	45	55
1-family.....	2,168.4	73	1,582.6	44	56
2-family.....	45.8	77	35.2	68	32
3- and 4-family.....	19.4	75	14.6	71	29
5-or-more family.....	83.2	91	75.9	64	36
Publicly owned.....	23.5	92	21.7	92	8
West					
All new dwelling units.....	2,451.2	82	2,010.0	28	72
Privately owned.....	2,435.1	82	1,994.1	28	72
1-family.....	2,199.8	81	1,779.7	25	75
2-family.....	57.8	81	47.1	39	61
3- and 4-family.....	40.0	88	35.1	21	79
5-or-more family.....	137.4	96	132.2	63	37
Publicly owned.....	16.2	99	16.1	98	2

Source: Department of Labor.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table 15.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Location and by State

(Millions of dollars)

State	1954								Percent change, Nov. to Dec.
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year	
All States .....	1,649.1	1,519.2	1,539.3	1,446.6	1,471.5	1,345.2	1,224.3	16,464.9	- 9
Metropolitan areas .....	1,304.2	1,227.9	1,236.8	1,146.9	1,145.9	1,078.8	1,007.7	13,161.1	- 7
Nonmetropolitan areas .....	344.9	291.3	302.5	299.7	325.6	266.4	216.5	3,303.8	-19
Alabama .....	12.5	12.3	13.4	12.7	14.2	12.5	7.8	135.8	-38
Arizona .....	12.8	12.5	11.3	10.9	16.8	11.0	12.5	145.1	+14
Arkansas .....	7.0	5.1	5.5	6.0	3.8	4.6	6.1	77.4	+33
California .....	256.5	231.1	231.7	220.1	214.7	226.6	222.9	2,571.0	- 2
Colorado .....	24.1	23.3	26.3	22.9	26.8	17.0	24.2	245.3	+42
Connecticut .....	36.0	27.4	31.5	29.9	28.2	38.2	21.4	320.4	-44
Delaware .....	6.9	5.7	5.0	4.7	4.5	2.4	1.5	49.6	-38
District of Columbia .....	9.6	2.9	2.1	5.3	3.2	18.6	9.5	72.7	-49
Florida .....	58.6	57.1	49.9	58.1	60.7	55.9	56.7	649.7	+ 1
Georgia .....	49.6	19.5	21.1	22.4	18.8	17.9	20.1	267.8	+12
Idaho .....	4.1	2.5	2.6	3.4	3.2	3.0	1.4	30.5	-53
Illinois .....	92.0	88.0	95.7	89.2	87.9	83.5	70.2	985.9	-16
Indiana .....	32.3	28.2	27.7	27.7	33.0	26.1	20.0	340.8	-23
Iowa .....	16.0	14.5	12.0	12.9	12.0	15.2	7.8	141.3	-49
Kansas .....	17.1	12.6	11.8	12.6	12.9	24.9	13.8	168.8	-45
Kentucky .....	19.3	12.3	12.3	12.7	10.4	11.8	6.6	170.7	-44
Louisiana .....	19.9	22.9	18.8	21.3	17.6	17.4	16.3	216.8	- 6
Maine .....	3.5	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.7	4.7	30.2	+74
Maryland .....	41.7	34.4	37.1	38.1	39.8	32.9	30.9	402.5	- 6
Massachusetts .....	35.0	38.5	36.0	25.5	38.6	36.6	27.7	391.8	-24
Michigan .....	100.7	106.8	93.4	86.7	100.5	68.4	69.7	1,007.8	+ 2
Minnesota .....	29.3	33.3	40.4	32.2	34.5	27.8	25.0	358.1	-10
Mississippi .....	6.3	4.1	6.7	5.8	4.8	4.2	7.7	62.4	+83
Missouri .....	42.1	22.7	26.6	24.9	22.6	20.6	23.5	304.6	+14
Montana .....	5.1	3.5	2.3	3.5	2.9	3.9	2.9	39.7	-26
Nebraska .....	9.3	6.3	7.0	7.9	7.4	8.1	4.5	77.8	-44
Nevada .....	13.3	4.1	5.8	4.0	9.1	6.3	8.7	82.0	+38
New Hampshire .....	2.9	2.1	2.5	1.7	2.2	3.1	4.4	27.6	+42
New Jersey .....	65.7	62.0	59.7	50.7	61.2	55.8	49.4	686.3	-11
New Mexico .....	7.0	5.3	5.8	7.3	5.8	5.9	3.7	72.3	-37
New York .....	117.8	161.1	155.3	111.1	97.7	100.9	99.5	1,412.8	- 1
North Carolina .....	16.1	14.4	19.4	16.1	12.8	11.5	12.9	181.6	+12
North Dakota .....	3.6	3.8	2.9	3.6	3.9	2.2	1.1	29.8	-50
Ohio .....	95.2	106.2	104.7	96.9	82.2	76.0	65.8	985.1	-13
Oklahoma .....	13.2	10.0	14.2	11.9	11.4	12.8	8.8	137.4	-31
Oregon .....	18.3	11.7	17.5	16.0	13.9	10.7	9.7	151.0	- 9
Pennsylvania .....	79.6	70.9	67.8	62.7	63.8	45.8	44.1	734.3	- 4
Rhode Island .....	5.6	3.2	3.5	2.7	3.1	3.8	2.1	44.5	-45
South Carolina .....	5.7	5.3	6.4	6.3	5.1	5.4	5.9	67.3	+ 9
South Dakota .....	3.0	2.9	6.3	2.8	2.8	3.0	1.8	32.7	-40
Tennessee .....	32.1	21.9	16.7	18.5	20.5	14.5	13.2	209.9	- 9
Texas .....	81.9	78.5	79.7	98.3	92.6	83.3	87.5	946.4	+ 5
Utah .....	10.8	10.2	10.9	11.1	16.7	9.0	4.9	105.1	-46
Vermont .....	.3	.8	2.1	1.4	.8	.6	.8	9.3	+33
Virginia .....	34.5	32.6	40.1	46.2	54.2	30.0	25.8	420.1	-14
Washington .....	33.5	31.9	27.6	35.6	39.3	37.2	31.2	375.3	-16
West Virginia .....	8.2	7.6	5.8	5.4	11.6	4.0	2.6	65.1	-35
Wisconsin .....	51.0	40.1	44.5	33.6	35.3	29.9	23.0	401.5	-23
Wyoming .....	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.7	2.7	1.8	1.8	23.2	(1)

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 16.—Building Permit Activity: Number of New Dwelling Units, by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Location and by State

State	1954								Percent change, Nov. to Dec.
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year	
All States .....	108,121	98,059	99,845	97,334	94,312	88,008	77,260	1,074,483	-12
Metropolitan areas .....	86,357	79,132	79,146	77,332	74,626	70,192	63,084	860,743	-10
Nonmetropolitan areas .....	21,764	18,927	20,699	20,002	19,686	17,816	14,176	213,740	-20
Alabama .....	1,127	1,106	1,216	1,252	1,305	977	724	12,473	-26
Arizona .....	861	1,118	1,065	927	1,199	974	1,208	11,810	+24
Arkansas .....	422	367	246	368	349	448	313	4,157	-30
California .....	19,469	17,009	16,821	16,226	16,906	17,513	18,456	199,421	+5
Colorado .....	1,706	1,636	1,853	1,783	2,093	1,661	1,654	18,661	(1)
Connecticut .....	2,290	1,580	2,031	1,391	1,499	1,532	994	17,398	-35
Delaware .....	635	470	376	475	433	161	111	3,579	-31
District of Columbia .....	762	96	155	135	308	90	324	2,984	+260
Florida .....	4,022	3,892	3,473	4,366	4,942	4,961	4,085	48,887	-18
Georgia .....	2,738	1,631	1,916	1,693	1,620	1,890	1,688	20,976	-11
Idaho .....	189	150	171	171	116	206	94	1,652	-54
Illinois .....	5,547	4,600	5,539	5,072	4,712	4,595	3,634	54,275	-21
Indiana .....	2,370	2,122	2,039	1,932	1,652	1,997	928	21,306	-54
Iowa .....	1,037	800	728	725	829	780	506	8,017	-35
Kansas .....	1,033	1,007	897	910	956	1,179	1,014	11,223	-14
Kentucky .....	1,510	1,090	837	1,002	788	764	520	10,823	-32
Louisiana .....	1,215	1,541	1,117	1,351	1,256	1,077	914	13,644	-15
Maine .....	249	131	101	121	152	95	52	1,235	-45
Maryland .....	2,778	2,364	3,055	3,325	2,447	2,504	2,451	31,223	-2
Massachusetts .....	2,139	2,211	2,201	1,638	2,044	1,988	1,460	22,330	-27
Michigan .....	6,337	6,151	5,760	5,608	6,412	4,076	2,896	59,543	-29
Minnesota .....	1,894	1,663	1,965	1,943	1,588	1,526	1,043	17,438	-32
Mississippi .....	475	344	469	393	329	355	364	4,262	+3
Missouri .....	2,252	1,104	1,551	1,322	1,065	1,053	939	16,355	-11
Montana .....	201	215	199	159	231	233	121	1,953	-48
Nebraska .....	554	509	461	615	602	575	391	5,482	-32
Nevada .....	840	256	320	344	405	214	221	4,642	+3
New Hampshire .....	204	150	159	127	145	159	105	1,686	-34
New Jersey .....	4,626	4,525	4,477	3,987	3,969	3,416	2,671	48,162	-22
New Mexico .....	682	476	585	622	564	569	297	6,464	-48
New York .....	8,134	7,962	8,398	7,930	6,870	5,864	6,383	89,445	+9
North Carolina .....	1,159	954	1,121	1,068	892	818	849	12,036	+4
North Dakota .....	213	227	190	205	222	169	40	1,728	-76
Ohio .....	5,667	6,486	5,283	5,716	4,484	4,226	3,690	54,680	-13
Oklahoma .....	1,055	854	1,278	866	759	944	699	10,410	-26
Oregon .....	884	648	620	833	735	646	541	7,952	-16
Pennsylvania .....	4,610	3,822	4,260	3,856	3,355	2,421	1,965	37,954	-19
Rhode Island .....	312	294	339	182	237	269	190	3,359	-29
South Carolina .....	436	368	469	476	440	378	343	4,790	-9
South Dakota .....	267	215	199	227	202	232	105	2,172	-55
Tennessee .....	1,503	1,503	1,651	1,520	1,676	1,162	1,288	16,084	+11
Texas .....	5,712	6,768	6,605	6,481	5,462	6,104	5,635	68,478	-8
Utah .....	737	721	674	554	1,068	560	322	6,828	-43
Vermont .....	25	38	30	28	36	41	11	316	-73
Virginia .....	2,697	2,203	2,884	3,138	2,680	2,599	1,680	30,153	-35
Washington .....	1,866	1,984	1,831	1,905	2,042	1,866	1,980	21,411	+6
West Virginia .....	315	305	245	305	273	227	104	2,876	-54
Wisconsin .....	2,186	2,289	1,819	1,851	1,774	1,767	1,153	20,125	-35
Wyoming .....	179	104	166	210	189	147	104	1,625	-29

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table 17.--Building Permit Activity: Valuation, in Selected Metropolitan Areas

(Millions of dollars)

Metropolitan area	1954								Percent change, Nov. to Dec.
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year	
Atlanta, Ga. ....	40.2	11.9	13.1	15.9	11.2	12.2	12.6	167.2	+ 3
Baltimore, Md. ....	19.7	16.2	20.4	22.7	26.3	19.2	14.3	223.5	-26
Birmingham, Ala. ....	4.6	5.5	4.3	5.8	6.2	4.0	2.7	50.9	-33
Boston, Mass. ....	20.3	21.4	19.4	14.0	22.4	22.6	13.4	219.3	-41
Buffalo, N. Y. ....	18.6	13.4	16.3	11.0	13.3	9.4	6.8	145.7	-28
Chicago, Ill. ....	81.6	78.7	89.0	78.2	80.1	74.0	65.8	881.6	-11
Cleveland, Ohio ....	30.1	31.4	36.0	30.1	22.8	22.0	20.6	290.5	- 6
Columbus, Ohio ....	12.3	16.1	12.9	12.3	11.6	8.4	10.0	122.9	+19
Denver, Colo. ....	14.9	15.6	18.5	15.0	17.0	11.2	17.7	165.1	+58
Detroit, Mich. ....	64.8	77.2	60.8	55.8	72.3	47.5	54.0	689.5	+14
Indianapolis, Ind. ....	11.3	8.6	11.4	10.9	16.3	10.6	7.6	115.9	-28
Los Angeles, Calif. ....	130.8	119.7	125.0	115.0	104.7	122.9	120.6	1,328.9	- 2
Memphis, Tenn. ....	21.3	5.5	7.2	7.3	6.4	5.3	4.7	81.3	-11
Miami, Fla. ....	20.2	24.0	16.0	21.5	25.1	21.0	19.9	234.4	- 5
Milwaukee, Wis. ....	19.5	18.7	25.0	15.8	16.5	13.7	13.2	194.3	- 4
New York-Northeastern New Jersey	120.7	166.5	151.4	109.8	106.6	104.8	114.5	1,485.6	+ 9
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va. ....	6.2	5.4	4.9	6.8	5.9	5.6	3.7	69.2	-34
Phoenix, Ariz. ....	6.8	8.1	7.6	6.6	8.5	8.1	9.4	96.2	+16
Rochester, N. Y. ....	6.6	6.5	6.9	5.1	5.5	4.9	4.8	63.1	- 2
Salt Lake City, Utah ....	7.4	6.8	6.9	4.2	7.4	4.6	2.3	57.6	-50
San Diego, Calif. ....	20.5	12.0	10.0	9.4	9.1	11.0	11.5	147.4	+ 5
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif. ....	41.1	45.7	33.4	38.6	38.4	31.5	30.3	411.6	- 4
Seattle, Wash. ....	15.7	16.8	10.8	13.2	16.0	20.8	16.1	170.6	-23
Washington, D. C. ....	31.2	24.5	25.9	32.5	20.4	36.4	33.0	320.4	- 9

Source: Department of Labor.

Table 18.--Building Permit Activity: Number of New Dwelling Units, in Selected Metropolitan Areas

(Housekeeping only)

Metropolitan area	1954								Percent change, Nov. to Dec.
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year	
Atlanta, Ga. ....	1,617	1,094	1,182	1,054	971	1,260	988	12,539	-22
Baltimore, Md. ....	1,193	917	1,393	1,873	1,216	1,475	990	15,464	-33
Birmingham, Ala. ....	402	458	487	477	485	392	284	4,752	-28
Boston, Mass. ....	964	1,079	1,087	697	919	1,016	748	10,745	-26
Buffalo, N. Y. ....	1,446	923	1,100	818	731	558	421	8,864	-25
Chicago, Ill. ....	4,973	4,047	5,160	4,351	4,207	4,155	3,238	49,005	-22
Cleveland, Ohio ....	1,473	1,607	1,450	1,331	1,097	911	1,130	13,379	+24
Columbus, Ohio ....	845	1,234	679	596	598	594	457	7,291	-23
Denver, Colo. ....	1,228	1,119	1,259	1,152	1,528	1,200	1,201	12,704	(1)
Detroit, Mich. ....	3,957	4,198	3,777	3,768	4,836	2,810	1,976	40,966	-30
Indianapolis, Ind. ....	791	626	512	780	676	774	272	6,693	-65
Los Angeles, Calif. ....	10,164	8,408	9,041	8,496	8,536	9,393	9,772	104,082	+ 4
Memphis, Tenn. ....	675	620	916	694	584	443	647	6,962	+46
Miami, Fla. ....	1,304	1,352	993	1,113	1,953	1,725	1,029	16,175	-40
Milwaukee, Wis. ....	993	1,264	809	740	781	834	651	9,522	-22
New York-Northeastern New Jersey	7,910	8,407	8,193	8,129	7,103	5,988	6,732	94,146	+12
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va. ....	620	454	557	795	766	800	330	6,988	-59
Phoenix, Ariz. ....	584	881	753	682	846	819	971	8,918	+19
Rochester, N. Y. ....	463	326	434	375	343	416	394	4,121	- 5
Salt Lake City, Utah ....	483	518	371	240	685	306	127	4,093	-58
San Diego, Calif. ....	722	886	653	784	705	1,048	858	10,207	-18
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif. ....	3,084	3,117	2,249	2,633	2,535	2,197	2,280	28,388	+ 4
Seattle, Wash. ....	877	1,019	703	828	894	857	956	9,937	+12
Washington, D. C. ....	2,540	1,719	2,273	2,045	1,787	1,482	2,263	23,651	+53

Source: Department of Labor. <sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.



## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 18-A.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation in Selected Metropolitan Areas in 1954, by Class of Construction and Type of Building

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)				Percent of valuation in central city of area			
	Atlanta, Ga.	Baltimore, Md.	Birmingham, Ala.	Boston, Mass.	Atlanta, Ga.	Baltimore, Md.	Birmingham, Ala.	Boston, Mass.
All building construction <sup>1</sup> .....	167.2	223.5	50.9	219.3	55	33	50	15
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup> .....	98.9	145.9	30.9	108.7	39	22	33	6
New nonresidential building .....	56.7	59.2	13.8	83.1	74	50	73	22
Commercial buildings .....	17.6	13.4	5.4	17.0	73	39	81	24
Amusement buildings .....	.4	.4	.1	1.2	61	47	39	26
Commercial garages .....	.9	.2	.1	.5	93	17	100	15
Gasoline and service stations .....	1.1	.8	.3	.7	41	16	52	33
Office buildings .....	4.5	2.5	1.7	5.8	90	64	87	13
Stores and other mercantile buildings .....	10.7	9.5	3.2	8.8	67	35	81	31
Community buildings .....	32.7	25.6	5.3	37.2	83	46	69	33
Educational buildings .....	4.9	15.7	3.7	22.0	18	23	78	7
Institutional buildings .....	21.4	.2	.1	10.8	100	59	100	89
Religious buildings .....	6.4	9.7	1.5	4.5	77	83	43	23
Garages, private residential .....	.3	.8	.3	1.4	57	12	74	4
Industrial buildings .....	4.1	12.5	.8	16.1	55	75	70	4
Public buildings .....	.5	2.6	.4	8.1	82	4	15	2
Public utilities buildings .....	1.1	3.0	.1	2.6	82	91	29	54
All other nonresidential buildings .....	.4	1.2	1.6	.7	36	27	81	2
Additions, alterations, and repairs .....	10.0	18.4	6.0	25.4	84	73	83	29
	Buffalo, N. Y.	Chicago, Ill.	Cleveland, Ohio	Columbus, Ohio	Buffalo, N. Y.	Chicago, Ill.	Cleveland, Ohio	Columbus, Ohio
All building construction <sup>1</sup> .....	145.7	881.6	290.5	122.9	14	27	22	36
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup> .....	81.5	603.2	189.4	84.9	11	21	9	23
New nonresidential building .....	52.8	212.1	75.2	29.8	13	39	42	62
Commercial buildings .....	7.0	75.0	17.6	13.7	33	49	51	70
Amusement buildings .....	.2	3.6	.5	.3	2	34	16	99
Commercial garages .....	.5	9.3	1.4	.4	3	91	70	98
Gasoline and service stations .....	1.8	4.3	1.5	.6	13	46	25	35
Office buildings .....	1.2	14.7	5.3	3.0	53	59	47	78
Stores and other mercantile buildings .....	3.4	43.2	8.8	9.5	43	39	57	67
Community buildings .....	27.3	65.9	28.8	7.6	5	33	45	84
Educational buildings .....	21.7	39.1	14.5	5.1	3	18	29	86
Institutional buildings .....	2.2	8.9	9.4	.7	0	89	86	100
Religious buildings .....	3.4	17.9	4.8	1.8	19	40	13	72
Garages, private residential .....	3.2	14.9	4.9	1.6	10	21	25	56
Industrial buildings .....	5.6	37.8	16.3	.9	27	37	47	71
Public buildings .....	2.0	6.7	.5	4.5	0	26	0	0
Public utilities buildings .....	3.8	8.4	5.7	1.0	39	49	10	99
All other nonresidential buildings .....	3.9	3.4	1.4	.4	3	18	7	4
Additions, alterations, and repairs .....	10.6	60.9	23.1	7.7	41	46	57	70
	Denver, Colo.	Detroit, Mich.	Indianapolis, Ind.	Los Angeles, Calif.	Denver, Colo.	Detroit, Mich.	Indianapolis, Ind.	Los Angeles, Calif.
All building construction <sup>1</sup> .....	165.1	689.5	115.9	1,328.9	48	19	35	30
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup> .....	104.2	434.2	68.0	919.2	35	11	20	27
New nonresidential building .....	48.1	207.6	40.7	281.8	67	28	54	35
Commercial buildings .....	13.7	69.6	12.8	91.2	68	26	73	41
Amusement buildings .....	.1	6.2	1.5	4.9	10	87	75	9
Commercial garages .....	1.1	2.0	.1	1.5	97	84	92	74
Gasoline and service stations .....	.9	3.6	.7	2.5	58	35	40	41
Office buildings .....	3.1	29.3	4.6	25.8	53	9	99	57
Stores and other mercantile buildings .....	8.6	28.5	5.9	56.4	71	26	55	35
Community buildings .....	16.0	52.3	11.0	80.9	58	39	69	48
Educational buildings .....	12.6	38.5	5.1	64.6	53	39	65	51
Institutional buildings .....	1.1	1.4	4.4	4.7	99	40	91	31
Religious buildings .....	2.2	12.4	1.5	11.7	63	39	17	38
Garages, private residential .....	2.0	16.0	1.6	9.7	48	31	48	57
Industrial buildings .....	4.5	46.9	2.2	51.1	85	16	34	5
Public buildings .....	7.7	5.6	3.8	4.8	72	27	22	5
Public utilities buildings .....	.4	13.6	6.3	8.7	0	31	9	23
All other nonresidential buildings .....	3.8	3.6	2.9	35.3	90	47	81	39
Additions, alterations, and repairs .....	12.5	45.4	6.4	125.5	80	48	77	44

See footnotes at end of table.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 18-A.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation in Selected Metropolitan Areas in 1954, by Class of Construction and Type of Building—Continued

Class of construction and type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)				Percent of valuation in central city of area			
	Memphis, Tenn.	Miami, Fla.	Milwaukee, Wis.	New York- Northeastern New Jersey	Memphis, Tenn.	Miami, Fla.	Milwaukee, Wis.	New York- Northeastern New Jersey
All building construction <sup>1</sup>	81.3	234.4	194.3	1,485.6	56	20	54	35
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup>	43.5	137.2	109.9	936.1	59	15	49	27
New nonresidential building	29.0	59.2	66.0	431.2	39	30	56	48
Commercial buildings	3.8	23.7	18.5	161.8	74	47	64	51
Amusement buildings	.2	1.5	2.8	6.9	0	24	74	22
Commercial garages	0	.7	1.3	6.5	0	1	49	58
Gasoline and service stations	.4	1.1	1.1	6.6	0	36	49	30
Office buildings	.1	3.2	2.6	83.3	0	78	90	75
Stores and other mercantile buildings	3.1	17.1	10.8	58.6	92	46	59	23
Community buildings	1.8	14.1	33.1	134.7	76	23	56	50
Educational buildings	.6	10.4	18.6	86.4	100	18	30	59
Institutional buildings	.2	1.5	9.8	24.2	87	73	99	36
Religious buildings	.9	2.1	4.7	24.2	56	15	71	29
Garages, private residential	.5	.8	3.4	12.2	91	17	55	5
Industrial buildings	21.9	3.5	8.1	50.3	29	17	33	17
Public buildings	.2	9.6	1.0	54.1	0	0	43	82
Public utilities buildings	.4	4.2	1.4	9.1	0	44	92	22
All other nonresidential buildings	.5	3.5	.4	8.9	65	20	31	5
Additions, alterations, and repairs	8.7	26.2	14.0	113.4	97	34	72	48
Class of construction and type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)				Percent of valuation in central city of area			
	Norfolk- Portsmouth, Va.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Rochester, N. Y.	Salt Lake City, Utah	Norfolk- Portsmouth, Va.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Rochester, N. Y.	Salt Lake City, Utah
All building construction <sup>1</sup>	69.2	96.2	63.1	57.6	40	19	27	38
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup>	43.5	63.1	40.7	40.2	32	10	7	22
New nonresidential building	19.6	25.4	16.8	13.1	50	32	61	76
Commercial buildings	4.5	14.8	3.4	8.1	48	44	39	90
Amusement buildings	.1	1.5	.2	.1	0	28	96	71
Commercial garages	.3	.2	.1	.5	100	38	7	100
Gasoline and service stations	1.0	1.0	.4	.7	11	4	14	57
Office buildings	.7	5.2	.6	4.6	93	77	85	100
Stores and other mercantile buildings	2.3	6.8	2.1	2.2	46	28	27	81
Community buildings	9.2	5.3	6.6	3.0	69	16	55	53
Educational buildings	6.9	3.9	5.4	1.4	83	8	57	71
Institutional buildings	.2	.2	.3	.5	14	100	100	69
Religious buildings	2.1	1.3	.9	1.1	30	29	26	23
Garages, private residential	.5	.2	1.2	.7	40	21	23	49
Industrial buildings	.6	4.1	4.3	.3	48	13	95	47
Public buildings	4.0	.2	.7	.4	17	0	91	63
Public utilities buildings	.1	.1	.2	0	9	44	68	0
All other nonresidential buildings	.6	.8	.4	.5	19	13	16	51
Additions, alterations, and repairs	5.9	5.4	5.4	3.7	70	44	70	73
Class of construction and type of building	Valuation (in millions of dollars)				Percent of valuation in central city of area			
	San Diego, Calif.	San Fran- cisco, Calif.	Seattle, Wash.	Washington, D. C.	San Diego, Calif.	San Fran- cisco, Calif.	Seattle, Wash.	Washington, D. C.
All building construction <sup>1</sup>	147.4	411.6	170.6	320.4	56	21	45	23
New dwelling units <sup>2</sup>	90.6	260.0	109.5	208.9	54	14	37	10
New nonresidential building	41.0	107.4	47.1	88.3	54	26	55	46
Commercial buildings	10.2	32.7	8.8	21.6	59	33	63	30
Amusement buildings	.9	2.8	.9	.5	31	67	90	44
Commercial garages	.1	.7	1.0	.4	32	48	98	33
Gasoline and service stations	.5	2.2	.8	1.1	56	24	48	15
Office buildings	2.3	8.8	1.8	4.8	63	45	65	95
Stores and other mercantile buildings	6.4	18.2	4.3	14.8	63	23	51	10
Community buildings	24.4	41.3	17.8	51.6	58	21	44	55
Educational buildings	11.4	32.7	10.8	19.2	41	20	41	15
Institutional buildings	10.6	3.0	1.7	27.3	77	18	90	85
Religious buildings	2.4	5.6	5.3	5.1	60	35	36	42
Garages, private residential	2.2	1.9	.8	.7	43	17	48	12
Industrial buildings	.8	15.6	12.7	2.7	38	42	76	60
Public buildings	1.1	7.5	1.9	4.7	32	12	64	3
Public utilities buildings	.6	2.8	4.1	5.1	7	2	11	83
All other nonresidential buildings	1.6	5.7	1.1	1.9	14	14	65	2
Additions, alterations, and repairs	12.9	41.6	13.4	22.7	61	46	78	50

Source: Department of Labor.  
of Construction Review.

Note: This table henceforth will show data on a monthly basis, beginning with the May issue

<sup>1</sup> Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup> Housekeeping only.

## Part IV--Contract Awards

Table 19.--Contract Awards: Public Construction, by Ownership and Type of Construction <sup>1</sup>

Ownership and type of construction <sup>2</sup>	Value (in millions of dollars)								Percent change, January 1954-55	
	1954							1955		Year 1954
	Jan.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.		
ALL PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION .....	502.1	746.5	637.7	726.1	722.4	569.8	764.2	520.9	8,121.1	+ 4
FEDERALLY OWNED .....	101.1	96.5	73.7	109.1	136.4	92.8	87.2	81.8	1,407.1	-19
Residential building.....	.1	0	(3)	.3	0	(3)	0	0	3.9	-100
Nonresidential building .....	73.7	66.1	42.8	55.9	81.6	62.9	33.4	44.6	863.8	-39
Educational .....	6.1	1.2	.2	1.3	3.1	(3)	.1	(3)	14.6	--
Hospital and institutional .....	.6	.5	1.8	4.2	8.1	16.5	.4	6.8	72.9	(4)
Administrative and general .....	2.1	3.3	2.9	4.7	2.5	4.1	1.4	3.6	38.7	+71
Other nonresidential building .....	64.9	61.1	37.9	45.7	67.9	42.3	31.5	34.2	737.6	-47
Airfield building .....	12.3	3.6	.5	1.7	6.4	7.7	9.5	14.8	89.7	+20
Industrial .....	42.5	19.6	20.6	23.5	22.1	29.0	10.9	6.8	390.3	-84
Troop housing .....	2.5	.8	3.2	8.5	29.8	.9	3.2	3.7	68.5	+48
Warehouses .....	2.6	25.1	3.4	1.6	3.0	.4	2.3	1.5	82.3	-42
All other .....	5.0	12.0	10.2	10.4	6.6	4.3	5.6	7.4	106.8	+48
Airfields .....	11.6	12.5	11.2	14.1	11.9	7.0	5.9	22.3	152.9	+92
Conservation and development .....	4.7	6.6	7.4	23.8	32.2	16.0	19.2	5.6	199.7	+19
Highway .....	2.4	7.2	6.3	6.4	6.0	2.8	6.7	2.8	62.4	+17
Electric power utilities .....	3.6	.7	1.8	5.0	3.6	1.4	15.6	1.3	66.7	-64
All other federally owned .....	5.0	3.4	4.2	3.6	1.1	2.7	6.4	5.2	57.7	+ 4
STATE AND LOCALLY OWNED.....	401.0	650.0	564.0	617.0	586.0	477.0	677.0	439.1	6,714.0	+10
Residential building.....	9.0	34.0	16.0	28.0	10.0	9.0	10.0	7.9	233.0	-12
Nonresidential building .....	154.0	251.0	236.0	256.0	226.0	204.0	274.0	224.3	2,711.0	+46
Educational .....	108.0	193.0	179.0	181.0	164.0	146.0	185.0	132.1	1,956.0	+22
Hospital and institutional .....	14.0	18.0	12.0	17.0	21.0	14.0	22.0	20.3	214.0	+45
Administrative and general .....	16.0	12.0	18.0	28.0	13.0	25.0	26.0	28.0	191.0	+75
Other nonresidential building .....	16.0	28.0	27.0	30.0	28.0	19.0	41.0	43.9	350.0	+174
Highway .....	169.0	268.0	225.0	244.0	243.0	180.0	281.0	121.4	2,713.0	-28
Sewerage systems.....	38.0	35.0	35.0	36.0	55.0	41.0	29.0	35.8	462.0	- 6
Water supply facilities.....	17.0	23.0	24.0	25.0	29.0	26.0	48.0	27.6	303.0	+62
Utilities .....	9.0	12.0	15.0	9.0	7.0	10.0	20.0	12.7	137.0	+41
Electric power .....	2.0	6.0	10.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	10.0	4.3	62.0	+115
Other utilities .....	7.0	6.0	5.0	6.0	4.0	6.0	10.0	8.4	75.0	+20
All other State and locally owned....	5.0	27.0	13.0	19.0	16.0	7.0	15.0	9.4	155.0	+88

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor. <sup>1</sup> Includes major force account projects started, principally, by TVA and State highway departments. <sup>2</sup> Types not shown separately are included in the appropriate "other" category. <sup>3</sup> Less than \$50,000. <sup>4</sup> Percent increase exceeds 300.

Table 20.--Contract Awards: Highway Construction, by Ownership, Source of Funds, and Type of Facility <sup>1</sup>

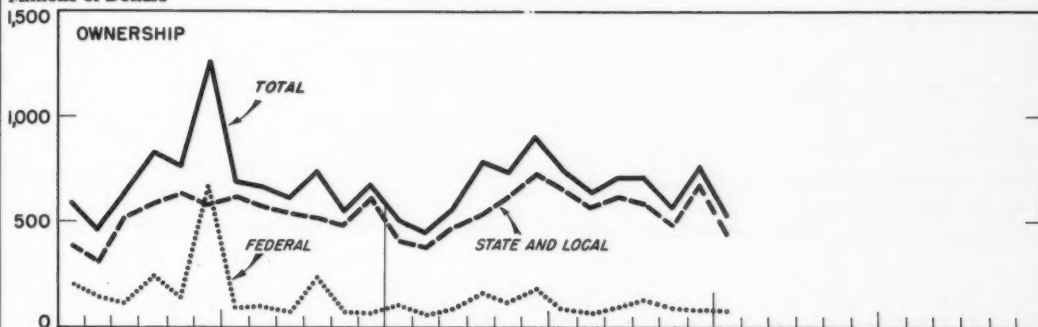
Ownership, source of funds, and type of facility	Value (in millions of dollars)								Percent change, January 1954-55	
	1954							1955		Year 1954
	Jan.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.		
ALL HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION .....	171.4	275.2	231.3	250.4	249.0	182.8	287.7	124.2	2,775.4	-28
FEDERALLY OWNED.....	2.4	7.2	6.3	6.4	6.0	2.8	6.7	2.8	62.4	+17
STATE OWNED.....	159.0	209.0	179.0	208.0	216.0	152.0	254.0	107.2	2,290.0	-33
Federally aided projects:										
Total value .....	49.0	126.0	110.0	107.0	92.0	80.0	142.0	50.5	1,221.0	+ 3
Federal funds .....	27.0	63.0	57.0	55.0	49.0	42.0	72.0	27.3	630.0	+ 1
Independent State projects:										
Total value .....	110.0	83.0	69.0	101.0	124.0	72.0	112.0	56.7	1,069.0	-48
Toll facilities .....	80.0	26.0	22.0	37.0	90.0	26.0	63.0	32.9	443.0	-59
LOCALLY OWNED <sup>2</sup> .....	10.0	59.0	46.0	36.0	27.0	28.0	27.0	14.2	423.0	+42

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor. <sup>1</sup> Includes force-account work started on Federal and State Projects. <sup>2</sup> By municipalities and counties.

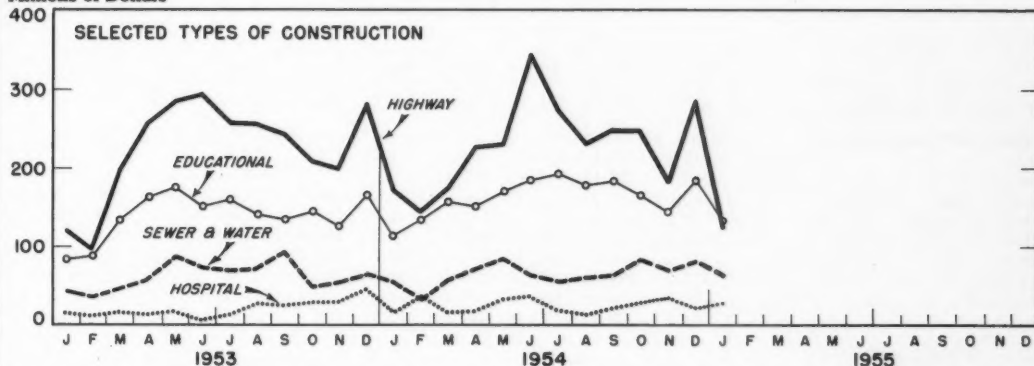
Chart 7.

## Contracts Awarded on Public Construction

Millions of Dollars



Millions of Dollars



SOURCE: DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 55-2-F

Table 21.--Contracts Awarded in 37 Eastern States

Type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)			Percent change		
	February 1955	January 1955	First 2 months, 1955	February 1955 from--		First 2 months, 1954-55
				January 1955	February 1954	
TOTAL .....	1,581	1,504	3,086	+ 5	+29	+30
Building construction .....	1,278	1,255	2,534	+ 2	+31	+32
Residential .....	744	690	1,435	+ 8	+46	+48
Nonresidential .....	534	565	1,099	- 5	+14	+17
Engineering .....	303	249	552	+21	+24	+20
Public works .....	248	174	421	+43	+29	+29
Utilities .....	55	75	131	-28	+ 6	- 3

Source: Compiled by Department of Commerce from data reported by F. W. Dodge Corporation.

## Part V--Costs

Table 22.--Construction Cost Indexes

Compiler and coverage	Indexes (1947-49 = 100)									Percent change, February 1954-55
	1954				1955		1952	1953	1954	
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Feb.	Feb.	
American Appraisal Company .....	126.6	127.0	127.2	127.2	127.2	127.4	115.5	120.6	124.5	+ 2
Associated General Contractors .....	133.3	133.6	133.6	133.6	133.6	133.6	116.9	123.1	129.6	+ 3
E. H. Boeckh and Associates (20 city average):										
Residences .....	120.8	121.0	121.0	121.1	121.5	121.5	117.6	120.1	119.5	+ 2
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings .....	127.5	127.6	127.5	127.7	127.9	128.0	119.8	123.7	125.9	+ 2
Commercial and factory buildings .....	128.6	128.7	128.6	128.7	128.9	129.0	119.5	124.0	126.5	+ 2
Engineering News-Record (as of Mar. 1):										
Building .....	134.7	135.0	135.1	135.4	135.9	135.9	120.4	125.7	129.2	+ 5
Construction .....	141.7	141.9	142.0	142.2	142.4	142.5	121.5	129.8	135.5	+ 5
Department of Commerce composite <sup>1</sup> .....	122.7	123.1	123.0	123.0	123.4	123.4	117.4	120.6	121.0	+ 2

Source: Department of Commerce.

<sup>1</sup> A composite of cost indexes representative of the major types of construction, weighted by the current relative importance of each type.

Table 23.--Indexes of Wholesale Prices of Building Materials, by Selected Classes

Commodity	Indexes (1947-49 = 100)									Percent change, February 1954-55
	1954				1955		1952	1953	1954	
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Feb.	Feb.	
ALL BUILDING MATERIALS <sup>1</sup> .....	121.3	121.7	121.9	122.0	122.1	122.5	117.9	118.7	119.2	+ 3
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS:										
Lumber .....	119.0	119.5	119.6	119.8	120.0	121.5	120.6	120.3	115.5	+ 5
Douglas fir .....	124.5	127.3	125.2	125.5	126.5	127.7	128.0	122.7	112.0	+14
Southern pine .....	112.0	112.5	113.9	114.3	114.7	114.9	116.3	118.3	109.5	+ 5
Other softwoods .....	131.1	130.7	131.3	131.6	131.2	133.8	126.6	131.0	129.9	+ 3
Hardwoods .....	112.2	111.6	111.7	111.5	111.5	113.3	114.3	112.3	113.9	- 1
Millwork .....	130.2	130.2	130.2	130.3	130.4	129.0	126.3	131.9	131.1	- 2
Plywood .....	103.2	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.7	104.7	104.8	110.9	105.0	(2)
Softwood .....	109.5	110.3	110.4	110.4	110.4	110.4	110.1	115.4	109.3	+ 1
Hardwood .....	98.8	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.9	100.9	101.1	107.8	101.9	- 1
PAINT AND PAINT MATERIALS:										
Prepared paint .....	112.8	112.8	112.8	112.8	112.8	113.1	109.7	110.5	112.8	(2)
Paint materials .....	97.0	97.2	96.6	96.2	95.8	96.1	106.5	95.2	95.2	+ 1
METAL PRODUCTS:										
Structural shapes .....	146.2	146.2	146.2	146.2	146.2	146.2	128.4	134.9	141.3	+ 3
Hardware finish .....	138.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	139.0	128.2	122.3	137.5	+ 1
Plumbing equipment .....	118.5	118.7	118.7	118.7	118.7	118.7	116.7	114.3	118.2	(2)
Enameled iron fixtures .....	129.2	129.2	129.2	129.2	129.3	129.3	121.9	124.8	129.2	(2)
Vitreous china fixtures .....	111.7	111.7	111.7	111.7	111.7	111.7	120.5	103.2	111.7	0
Brass fittings .....	116.5	117.1	117.1	117.1	117.1	117.1	111.4	113.3	115.9	+ 1
Heating equipment .....	114.1	114.3	114.3	114.3	113.9	113.7	114.0	113.9	114.8	- 1
Furnaces .....	120.6	121.1	121.1	121.1	120.6	120.2	117.0	116.6	120.3	(2)
Water heaters .....	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	107.7	107.7	114.2	111.9	109.7	- 2
Metal sash .....	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.5	117.7	117.7	127.3	+ 4
NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS:										
Glass, plate .....	132.0	132.0	132.0	132.0	132.0	132.0	120.9	120.9	132.0	0
Glass, window .....	131.3	131.3	131.3	131.3	131.3	131.3	118.0	118.0	131.3	0
Concrete ingredients .....	122.1	122.1	122.1	122.3	123.1	123.6	113.2	113.1	119.8	+ 3
Portland cement .....	128.3	128.3	128.3	128.3	129.9	129.9	116.4	116.4	124.8	+ 4
Concrete products .....	117.8	117.8	117.4	117.4	116.7	116.9	112.4	112.8	117.6	- 1
Structural clay products .....	135.4	135.4	135.4	135.4	135.8	136.1	121.4	124.0	131.9	+ 3
Gypsum products .....	122.1	122.1	122.1	122.1	122.1	122.1	117.7	117.7	122.1	0
Insulation materials .....	110.1	110.1	107.3	107.3	106.7	106.7	104.6	107.3	110.1	- 3
Asphalt roofing .....	120.8	120.8	119.5	119.5	119.2	119.2	111.2	115.3	119.8	- 1
MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS:										
Building board .....	127.6	127.6	127.6	127.6	127.6	129.4	113.4	118.2	127.9	+ 1
Kitchen cabinets, metal .....	127.6	127.6	128.2	128.2	128.2	128.2	125.2	125.2	127.5	+ 1

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Includes items not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.



Table 24.--Wholesale Prices of Selected Building Materials

Commodity	Unit	1955	1954	
		January	December	January
<b>LUMBER</b>				
Douglas fir:				
Dimension, mixed, No. 1, 25% #2 green, S4S, 2" x 4", R.L., f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	\$70.952	\$71.181	\$59.886
Boards, No. 1, green S4S, R.L., 1" x 8" and shiplap, loose, mixed c/l of boards and dimension, f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	65.296	67.102	57.834
Timbers, No. 1, 8" x 8" to 12" x 12", R.L., green, f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	71.997	70.887	61.912
Southern pine:				
Dimension, No. 2 and better, 2" x 4" x 16', dry S.L., f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	81.497	81.191	77.033
Boards, No. 2 and better, 1" x 6", dry, f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	78.480	78.199	74.359
Ponderosa pine boards, No. 3 common, 1" x 8", R.L., S2 or 4S, c/l or mixed cars, f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	72.260	71.960	71.710
Oak, red, flooring, plain, 25/32" thick, 2-1/4" face, select, f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	171.907	171.907	166.889
Maple flooring, 2d grade, 25/32" x 2-1/4" face, f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	176.628	175.556	170.330
Poplar, plain, No. 2B common, 4/4", R.W., f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	55.000	55.000	59.000
Beech, No. 2B common, 4/4", R.W. & L., f.o.b. mill .....	M bd. ft.	47.000	47.000	55.000
<b>MILLWORK</b>				
Door, Douglas fir, interior, 2 plywood panels, 2'6" x 6'8" x 1-3/8", f.o.b. factory .....	Ea.	4.829	4.829	4.528
Frame, door, Ponderosa pine, exterior, 1-5/16" x 2" casing, with sill, f.o.b. factory .....	Ea.	9.214	9.214	9.321
Window, Ponderosa pine, 2 light, check rail, open, f.o.b. factory .....	Ea.	1.648	1.648	1.663
<b>PLYWOOD</b>				
Douglas fir, interior, A-D, 1/4" x 48" x 96", f.o.b. mill .....	M sq. ft.	80.807	80.807	77.605
Douglas fir, interior, C-D, 5/16" x 48" x 96", f.o.b. mill .....	M sq. ft.	70.660	70.660	64.626
<b>BOARD</b>				
Insulation, fiber, 1/2" x 48" x 96", interior, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized .....	M sq. ft.	53.000	53.000	53.000
<b>PREPARED PAINT</b>				
Emulsion, water-thinned, inside, delivered .....	Gal.	2.372	2.372	2.372
Varnish, floor, first grade, delivered .....	Gal.	3.682	3.682	3.682
Enamel, white, gloss, first grade, delivered .....	Gal.	4.497	4.497	4.497
Inside, flat, white, first grade, delivered .....	Gal.	2.879	2.868	2.857
Outside, white, first grade, delivered .....	Gal.	4.342	4.342	4.331
<b>METAL PRODUCTS</b>				
Structural shapes, standard, carbon steel, 6" x 4" x 1/2" angles, 30' long, 12" depth, ASTM spec. A7 base quantity, f.o.b. mill .....	100 lb.	4.517	4.517	4.383
Bars, reinforcing, carbon steel 3/4" round x 30' long with 10% shorts, spec. ASTM A-15, 50T, base quantity, f.o.b. mill .....	100 lb.	4.963	5.050	4.863
Sheets, galvanized, carbon steel, 24 gage x 39" wide x 96" long, commercial coating, base chemistry, base packaging, base quantity, f.o.b. mill .....	100 lb.	7.220	7.220	6.945
Pipe, standard, black, carbon steel, butt weld, threaded and coupled, 1-1/4" nominal, random lengths, wt. 228 lbs., f.o.b. mill .....	100 ft.	15.000	15.000	14.454
Pipe, standard, galvanized, carbon steel, butt weld, threaded and coupled, 1-1/4" nominal, random lengths, wt. 228 lbs., f.o.b. mill .....	100 ft.	18.605	18.605	17.731
Nails, wire, carbon steel, 8-penny, common c/l, f.o.b. mill .....	100 lb. keg	7.815	7.815	7.488
Soil pipe, cast iron, 2" to 6", f.o.b. foundry, index number (1947-49 = 100) .....	Ton	(108.4)	(108.4)	(105.5)
Aluminum sheets, 30,000 lbs. or over, f.o.b. shipping point, freight allowed, index number (1947-49 = 100) .....	Lb.	(140.0)	(136.3)	(132.6)
Copper water tubing, 2,000 ft. or more, f.o.b. mill, freight allowed .....	Ft.	\$0.253	\$0.253	(1)
Wire, building, type R, lots over \$500 list value, f.o.b. destination .....	M ft.	12.495	12.240	\$11.475
Screening, insect, bronze wire, 18 x 14 mesh, 30" wide, f.o.b. factory, freight equalized .....	100 ft. roll	24.380	24.540	24.220
<b>PLUMBING EQUIPMENT</b>				
Bath tub, enameled iron, 5', recesses, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed .....	Ea.	53.841	53.841	53.841
Lavatory, enameled iron, 20" x 18", f.o.b. plant, freight allowed .....	Ea.	12.858	12.858	12.858
Water closet, vitreous china, close coupled, reverse trap, f.o.b. plant, freight allowed .....	Ea.	21.787	21.787	21.778
Sink, enameled steel, 32" x 21", flat rim, 2-compartment, acid resisting, without drainboard, f.o.b. plant, freight allowed .....	Ea.	16.058	16.058	16.057

See footnotes at end of table.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 24--Wholesale Prices of Selected Building Materials--Continued

Commodity	Unit	1955	1954	
		January	December	January
<b>HEATING EQUIPMENT</b>				
Boiler, heating, steel, oil fired, steam rating 400 sq. ft., less burner, with jacket and standard trim, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed.....	Ea.	\$186.618	\$186.618	\$184.880
Convactor, nonferrous, free standing, average of 43 sq. ft. steam rating capacity, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed .....	Sq. ft.	.433	.432	.451
Furnace, warm air:				
Steel, oil fired, forced air, gun-type burner, average bonnet output 90,000-115,000 b.t.u. per hr., f.o.b. factory, freight allowed .....	Ea.	252.052	252.052	256.742
Steel, gas fired, standard automatic controls, average input rating 85,000-110,000 b.t.u. per hr., enclosing jacket, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed .....	Ea.	165.091	167.080	173.783
Furnace, floor, gas fired, floor grill, average input rating 40,000-60,000 b.t.u. per hr., manual controls, f.o.b. factory .....	Ea.	56.967	56.967	53.581
Oil burner, mechanical forced draft (gun-type), 2-1/2 gal. per hr., thermostat, limit and stack controls, f.o.b. factory .....	Ea.	104.245	104.245	112.495
Water heater, gas, automatic, 30-gal. storage tank, galvanized steel, 1-year guarantee, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed.....	Ea.	38.350	39.079	(1)
<b>NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS</b>				
Sand, construction, f.o.b. plant .....	Ton	1.154	1.154	1.130
Gravel (for concrete), 1-1/2" maximum, f.o.b. plant .....	Ton	1.384	1.380	1.376
Crushed stone (for concrete), 1-1/2" maximum, f.o.b. plant .....	Ton	1.549	1.549	1.544
Block, concrete, lightweight aggregate, 8" x 8" x 16", f.o.b. plant .....	Ea.	.174	.177	.182
Pipe, concrete, culvert, reinforced, 24" diameter, ASTM spec. C76-41 table 1, 3" wall thickness, 4' lengths delivered .....	Ft.	3.646	3.646	3.685
Brick, building, f.o.b. plant .....	M	28.642	28.430	28.033
Brick, face, red, select, first quality, textured, f.o.b. plant .....	M	37.050	36.807	36.263
Tile, clay, partition, scored, 4" x 12" x 12", 3-cell, f.o.b. plant .....	M	125.734	122.219	122.219
Sewer pipe, vitrified clay, 8" diameter, 3' lengths, standard strength, f.o.b. plant.....	Ft.	.457	.457	.454
Lath, gypsum, 3/8" x 16" x 48", f.o.b. plant, freight equalized .....	M sq. ft.	24.010	24.010	24.010
Wallboard, gypsum, 3/8" x 48", varying lengths, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized .....	M sq. ft.	31.850	31.850	31.850
Plaster, gypsum, base coat, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized .....	Ton	14.948	14.948	14.948
Shingles, asphalt, strip, 210 lbs., f.o.b. factory, freight equalized .....	Sq.	5.298	5.298	5.682
Lime, hydrated, finishing, f.o.b. plant .....	Ton	18.057	17.914	18.083
Siding shingles, asbestos cement, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized.....	Sq.	9.697	9.697	9.499

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Not available.**SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

This special Bureau of the Census release summarizes reports from about 4,000 State and local governments on their plans for future public works. As of October 1, 1954, plans existed for 71,639 separate projects with an estimated cost totaling \$27.7 billion (excluding federally aided projects and any work scheduled to start before June 30 this year). County and municipal governments, and road construction and educational building accounted for the bulk of the total--numerically and dollar-wise.

The report covers projects ranging from those with a "ready-to-go" status to those "programmed," with many of the latter awaiting necessary funds and authority to proceed, but far enough along to be brought to a start basis within 6 to 18 months. Information was not collected on individual projects, but summary tabulations provide data such as the estimated total land and project construction cost, by size of project, type of construction, plan status, and type of government. The survey was sponsored by the Council of Economic Advisers and the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Single copies of the report may be obtained, while the supply lasts, by writing to the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

## Part VI--Materials

NOTE: This issue of Construction Review introduces a new series of construction materials output indexes (shown below) which replace the previous series shown in earlier issues. A description of the methodology and limitations of the new series, along with revised indexes for the period 1947-54, are shown on page 4 of this issue.

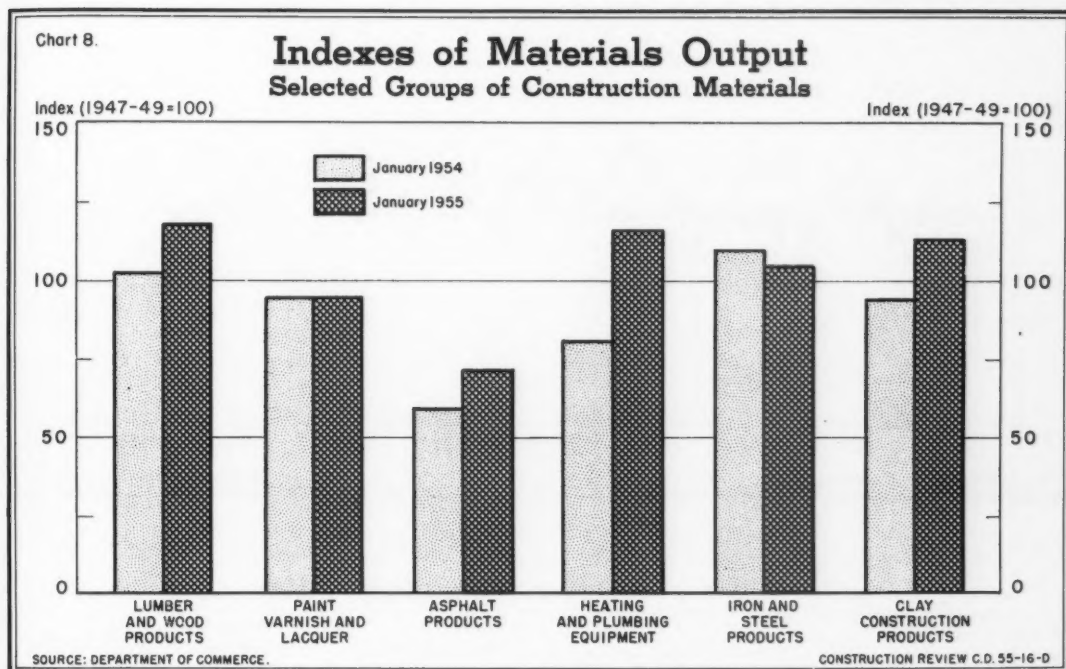


Table 25.--Construction Materials: Indexes of Production

(Monthly average 1947-49 = 100)

Materials group	1954												1955
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Monthly Indexes													
Lumber and wood products.....	102.1	107.1	128.1	126.3	124.5	117.9	93.9	107.6	126.6	133.5	127.5	124.9	117.7
Millwork .....	75.8	83.3	97.4	91.9	91.5	98.5	70.6	92.9	120.2	121.6	108.8	114.4	(2)
Paint, varnish, and lacquer <sup>1</sup> .....	94.3	87.5	103.4	113.4	113.3	123.6	111.9	111.5	104.9	93.4	86.9	75.6	94.3
Portland cement .....	106.3	101.1	120.5	129.9	139.1	136.4	152.3	153.6	152.8	154.9	142.6	133.3	(2)
Asphalt products <sup>1</sup> .....	58.1	79.2	82.1	100.2	112.6	133.8	109.3	123.2	143.5	122.0	104.6	68.0	71.6
Heating and plumbing equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	80.0	83.5	100.0	106.5	108.0	122.6	111.0	145.3	155.8	158.8	127.6	112.5	115.8
Iron and steel products <sup>1</sup> .....	109.8	113.9	128.8	134.0	124.5	138.1	121.4	126.9	124.3	121.3	105.6	97.6	104.5
Clay construction products....	94.3	94.1	112.3	116.5	113.8	122.4	117.6	125.1	126.6	123.3	123.7	120.6	112.8
Quarterly Indexes													
Gypsum products <sup>1</sup> .....	132.8			152.3			158.9			162.2			(2)
Plumbing fixtures .....	103.3			101.0			101.3			123.1			(2)

Source: Table compiled by the Department of Commerce from data reported by various Government agencies and by private firms shown in notes to the tables following. <sup>1</sup> Shipments. <sup>2</sup> Not yet available.

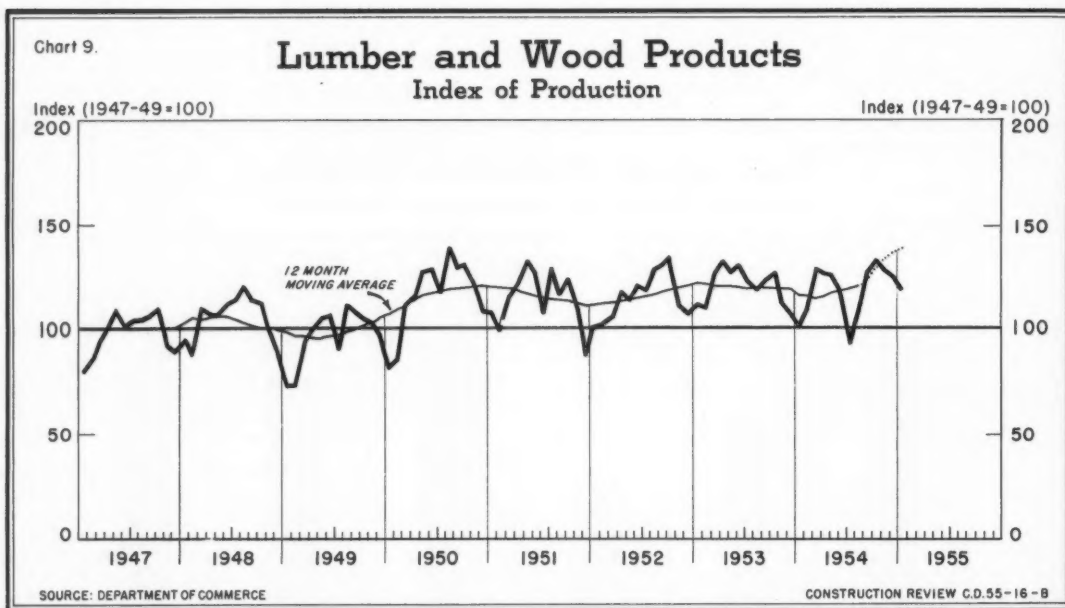


Table 26.--Lumber and Wood Products: Production, Shipments, and Stocks

Period	Softwood lumber (million bd. ft.)			Hardwood flooring (thousand bd. ft.)			Douglas fir plywood (million sq. ft.)	Insulating boards (tons)	Hardboard (tons)
	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production		
1947-49 average .....	28,048	27,440	4,448	812,365	789,437	44,455	1,802	766,269	294,214
Year: 1952 .....	30,477	30,578	4,980	1,004,117	1,001,672	86,938	3,051	879,655	396,219
1953 .....	31,072	30,318	5,756	1,004,558	1,010,972	73,449	3,704	952,562	423,428
1954 .....	29,636	30,281	5,186	1,145,118	1,139,091	68,425	3,825	1,013,740	493,258
12 months ending:									
September 1954 .....	29,102	29,508	--	1,092,859	1,083,794	--	3,565	963,051	462,929
October 1954 .....	29,102	29,636	--	1,106,684	1,100,413	--	3,640	982,462	469,556
November 1954 .....	29,333	29,908	--	1,128,352	1,121,227	--	3,729	996,631	481,127
January 1955 .....	29,839	30,513	--	1,161,362	1,161,075	--	3,915	1,022,365	492,950
1954: January .....	2,106	2,079	5,821	81,232	76,901	78,039	303	69,019	32,100
February .....	2,221	2,196	5,842	79,418	79,387	77,920	319	68,417	37,420
March .....	2,668	2,754	5,757	94,059	93,753	76,673	377	82,219	43,599
April .....	2,649	2,784	5,655	94,012	94,876	73,145	355	81,224	44,581
May .....	2,639	2,604	5,690	90,449	90,438	71,440	328	87,988	42,042
June .....	2,499	2,768	5,421	96,554	100,063	66,986	280	89,877	42,879
July .....	2,023	2,257	5,214	94,037	98,340	62,583	142	85,910	40,890
August .....	2,295	2,395	5,108	101,799	104,247	59,768	207	89,862	41,791
September .....	2,657	2,662	5,103	104,340	104,572	56,859	332	88,860	42,409
October .....	2,748	2,730	5,093	104,788	105,116	56,456	393	96,961	43,268
November .....	2,591	2,523	5,175	102,146	98,488	59,874	395	89,164	43,744
December .....	2,540	2,529	5,186	102,284	92,910	68,425	393	84,239	38,535
1955: January .....	2,309	2,311	5,238	97,476	98,885	64,016	393	94,753	43,923
	Percent change								
January, 1954-55 .....	+10	+11	-10	+20	+29	-18	+30	+37	+37
Year, 1953-54 .....	-5	(1)	--	+14	+13	--	+10	+6	+17

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, and the Bureau of the Census.

<sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.

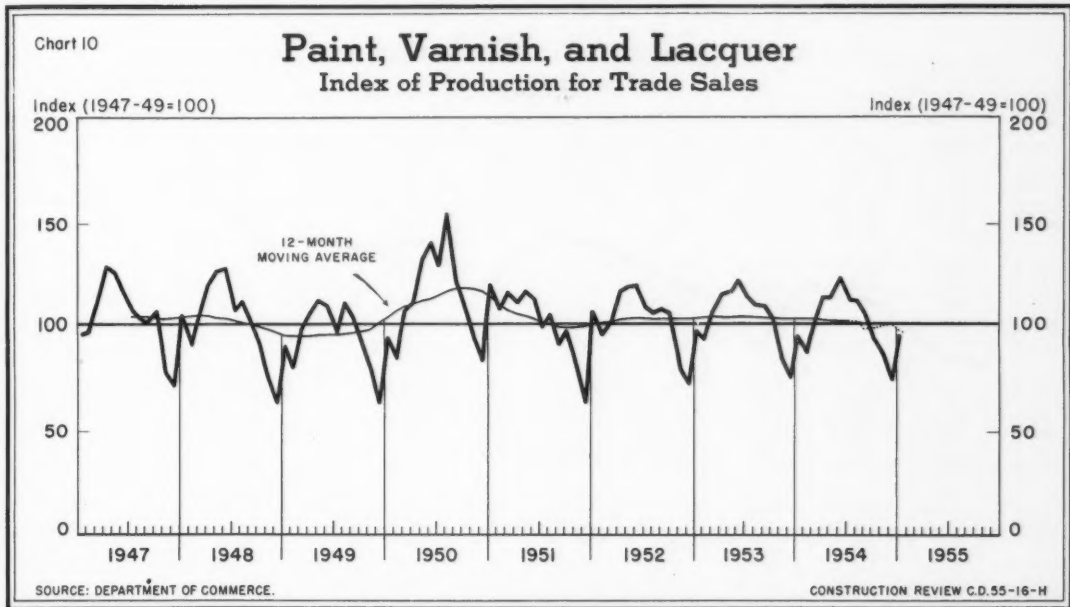


Table 27.--Millwork Products, and Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer: Production

Period	Production (Thousands of units)					Production for trade sales (Thousands of gallons)
	Douglas fir doors (panel type)	Ponderosa pine doors	Hardwood doors	Sash	Exterior frames	Paint, varnish, & lacquer
1947-49 average .....	5,658	3,780	876	11,246	4,152	266,701
Year: 1952 .....	5,288	2,417	1,207	10,514	4,543	274,992
1953 .....	4,070	2,487	1,301	11,419	5,072	276,326
1954 .....	3,522	2,285	1,665	11,054	5,791	271,235
12 months ending:						
September 1954 .....	3,233	2,210	1,473	10,204	5,188	272,603
October 1954 .....	3,302	2,244	1,544	10,399	5,367	270,837
November 1954 .....	3,420	2,247	1,605	10,695	5,547	271,419
January 1955 .....	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.	271,243
1954: January .....	294	156	96	634	355	20,961
February .....	333	173	105	689	383	19,454
March .....	385	203	136	778	426	22,988
April .....	344	181	127	784	423	25,200
May .....	297	162	137	841	448	25,183
June .....	265	199	125	967	541	27,642
July .....	85	127	133	716	399	24,874
August .....	71	220	177	919	498	24,777
September .....	342	235	152	1,247	634	23,309
October .....	346	229	168	1,227	629	20,752
November .....	377	191	145	1,128	518	19,320
December .....	383	209	164	1,124	537	16,775
1955: January .....	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	20,969
Percent change						
January, 1954-55 .....	--	--	--	--	--	(1)
Year, 1953-54 .....	-13	-8	+28	-3	+14	-2

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Fir Door Institute, the National Wood Work Manufacturers Association (whose data on ponderosa pine and hardwood doors, sash and exterior frames are only from member firms, and are not adjusted to represent full coverage), and the Bureau of the Census. n.a.: Not available. <sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.



## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

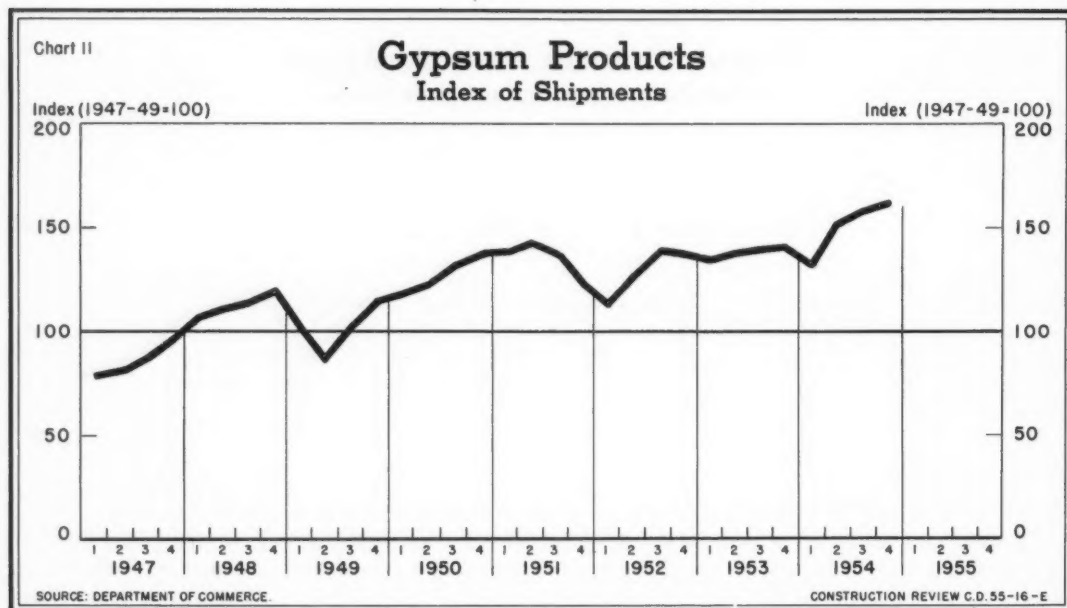


Table 28.--Portland Cement, and Asphalt and Gypsum Products: Production, Shipments, and Stocks

Period	Pro- duction	Ship- ments	Stocks	Shipments (Thousands of squares)				Shipments (Million square feet)	
	(Thousands of barrels)			Asphalt prepared roofing	Asphalt siding	Asphalt insulated brick siding	Asphalt and tar saturated felts	Gypsum board	Gypsum lath
	Portland cement								
1947-49 average .....	200,607	199,306	11,922	61,252	3,365	2,811	17,087	2,478	2,075
Year: 1952.....	249,091	251,137	15,964	57,938	1,858	2,718	23,577	3,457	2,315
1953.....	264,022	260,889	19,231	56,703	1,557	2,794	25,778	3,757	2,435
1954.....	271,287	274,003	16,649	58,648	1,447	2,297	28,531	4,217	2,484
12 months ending:									
September 1954 .....	266,779	263,897	--	56,993	1,527	2,375	28,058	4,034	2,444
October 1954 .....	267,928	268,474	--	57,270	1,522	2,324	27,956		
November 1954.....	269,240	271,760	--	58,252	1,468	2,296	28,308		
January 1955 .....	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.	59,273	1,443	2,291	29,022		
1954: January.....	17,769	11,143	25,869	2,565	89	99	1,600		
February .....	16,895	15,202	27,562	2,846	94	127	3,114		
March .....	20,142	18,797	28,906	3,824	116	178	1,859	<sup>1</sup> 942	<sup>1</sup> 518
April .....	21,709	23,566	27,044	4,923	113	217	1,962		
May .....	23,255	24,888	25,412	5,374	114	219	2,537		
June .....	22,802	28,632	19,609	6,484	151	231	2,985	<sup>1</sup> 1,052	<sup>1</sup> 635
July .....	25,467	27,628	17,451	5,251	115	233	2,330		
August .....	25,681	28,802	14,329	6,029	147	260	2,460		
September .....	25,549	29,058	10,890	7,062	153	256	3,036	<sup>1</sup> 1,079	<sup>1</sup> 689
October .....	25,887	27,133	9,655	6,088	144	221	2,436		
November .....	23,841	22,781	10,727	5,108	125	159	2,360		
December .....	22,290	16,373	16,649	3,094	86	97	1,852	<sup>1</sup> 1,144	<sup>1</sup> 642
1955: January .....	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.	3,190	85	93	2,091		
	Percent change								
January, 1954-55 .....	--	--	--	+24	-4	-6	+31	--	--
Year, 1953-54 .....	--	--	--	+3	-7	-18	+11	+12	+2

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Department of Interior (Bureau of Mines), and the Bureau of the Census.

n. a.: Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Quarterly data.

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Table 29.--Portland Cement: Destination of Shipments, by State

State	(Thousands of barrels)								
	1954			Calendar year			12 months ending--		
	October	November	December	1952	1953	1954	October 1954	November 1954	December 1954
Alabama .....	413	340	273	3,883	4,260	3,935	3,859	3,874	3,935
Arizona .....	176	174	194	2,119	2,433	2,215	2,247	2,223	2,215
Arkansas .....	139	235	187	1,940	1,762	1,894	1,658	1,784	1,894
California .....	2,718	2,426	2,266	25,367	27,737	28,528	28,016	28,350	28,528
Colorado .....	312	267	213	2,826	2,941	3,285	3,127	3,203	3,286
Connecticut .....	355	291	198	2,977	3,194	3,258	3,218	3,241	3,258
Delaware .....	92	64	43	861	902	910	889	909	910
District of Columbia .....	120	120	90	1,156	1,249	1,24	1,304	1,323	1,324
Florida .....	724	811	849	6,680	7,487	8,340	7,911	8,065	8,340
Georgia .....	423	344	306	4,161	4,644	4,441	4,419	4,378	4,441
Idaho .....	117	88	39	1,116	986	1,215	1,198	1,216	1,215
Illinois .....	1,517	1,207	665	13,327	13,439	14,942	14,596	14,788	14,942
Indiana .....	692	535	298	6,207	6,568	6,721	6,656	6,687	6,721
Iowa .....	716	412	148	4,890	4,941	5,852	5,680	5,799	5,852
Kansas .....	688	611	337	5,939	5,801	6,569	6,310	6,496	6,569
Kentucky .....	308	235	138	3,621	3,354	3,026	3,048	3,026	3,026
Louisiana .....	549	572	452	5,869	5,728	6,292	6,038	6,195	6,292
Maine .....	107	93	41	692	894	849	824	854	849
Maryland .....	450	372	266	4,363	4,676	4,447	4,389	4,439	4,447
Massachusetts .....	427	422	293	4,347	4,351	4,180	4,088	4,176	4,180
Michigan .....	1,425	1,249	615	11,255	12,716	13,077	12,800	13,007	13,077
Minnesota .....	639	342	169	4,748	4,968	5,500	5,363	5,460	5,500
Mississippi .....	143	173	116	1,705	1,696	1,733	1,679	1,701	1,733
Missouri .....	609	645	422	6,319	6,796	7,558	7,367	7,473	7,558
Montana .....	106	84	46	1,358	949	1,019	1,015	1,022	1,019
Nebraska .....	399	327	160	2,629	3,384	3,724	3,482	3,643	3,724
Nevada .....	69	62	58	625	618	842	832	840	842
New Hampshire .....	129	115	30	451	549	827	761	830	827
New Jersey .....	923	733	554	8,084	8,581	9,164	9,172	9,220	9,164
New Mexico .....	215	224	167	1,645	1,860	2,111	1,938	2,033	2,111
New York .....	2,199	1,468	1,044	16,905	19,134	20,278	20,335	20,300	20,278
North Carolina .....	337	288	222	3,896	3,715	3,965	3,942	3,940	3,965
North Dakota .....	114	39	15	1,062	1,148	1,161	1,166	1,164	1,161
Ohio .....	1,823	1,336	674	13,021	14,286	16,005	15,945	16,042	16,005
Oklahoma .....	319	388	320	4,677	4,158	4,364	4,325	4,360	4,364
Oregon .....	193	162	132	2,902	2,445	2,081	2,100	2,102	2,081
Pennsylvania .....	1,574	1,179	821	15,055	15,234	15,064	14,859	14,993	15,064
Rhode Island .....	66	68	43	1,015	857	685	667	681	685
South Carolina .....	167	143	101	2,961	2,217	1,993	2,036	2,021	1,993
South Dakota .....	155	88	26	1,113	1,246	1,116	1,088	1,113	1,116
Tennessee .....	478	371	264	4,702	4,856	4,701	4,656	4,671	4,701
Texas .....	1,541	1,558	1,600	17,249	16,158	19,081	18,115	18,511	19,081
Utah .....	156	137	86	1,343	1,343	1,508	1,417	1,465	1,508
Vermont .....	29	21	11	321	300	242	246	243	242
Virginia .....	418	345	245	4,652	4,701	4,464	4,501	4,496	4,464
Washington .....	536	511	378	4,954	5,413	5,679	5,503	5,629	5,679
West Virginia .....	181	197	74	1,791	1,921	2,379	2,360	2,399	2,379
Wisconsin .....	738	391	241	5,673	6,127	5,840	5,797	5,784	5,840
Wyoming .....	61	52	30	561	538	585	569	581	585

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce from data reported by Department of Interior (Bureau of Mines).

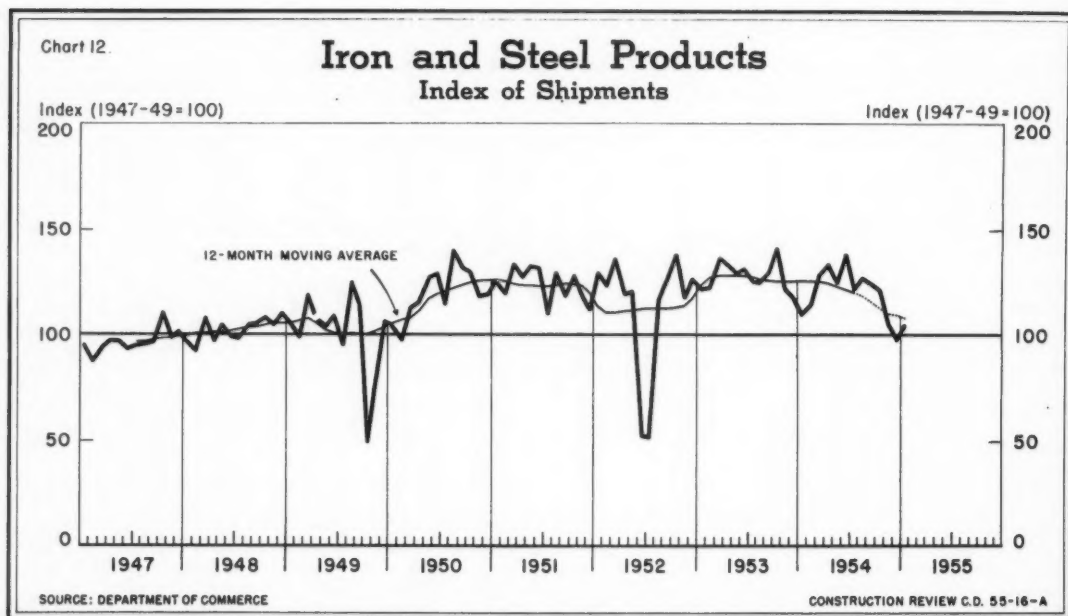


Table 30.--Iron and Steel Products: Shipments, Bookings, and Backlog

(Thousands of tons)

Period	Shipments									Ship- ments	Book- ings	Back- log <sup>1</sup>
	Line pipe	Concrete reinforc- ing bars	Gal- vanized sheets	Nails	Piling	Rails	Cast-iron pipe		Rigid steel con- duit			
							Pres- sure	Soil				
1947-49 average.....	1, 975	1, 523	1, 669	797	309	2, 167	1, 075	604	226	2, 248	2, 105	--
Year: 1952.....	2, 882	1, 813	1, 961	651	235	1, 454	1, 312	651	225	2, 664	2, 504	1, 033
1953.....	3, 507	1, 849	2, 291	529	343	1, 954	1, 286	677	221	3, 117	2, 787	1, 010
1954.....	2, 595	1, 751	2, 363	567	388	1, 196	1, 376	744	228	3, 136	2, 510	743
12 months ending:												
September 1954.....	2, 985	1, 766	2, 312	559	396	1, 579	1, 333	722	207	3, 244	2, 454	--
October 1954.....	2, 867	1, 755	2, 312	556	399	1, 474	1, 344	724	214	3, 207	2, 475	--
November 1954.....	2, 735	1, 753	2, 332	563	397	1, 341	1, 360	735	223	3, 179	2, 517	--
January 1955.....	2, 518	1, 756	2, 405	578	379	1, 115	1, 386	757	234	3, 116	2, 570	--
1954: January.....	196	111	169	38	30	178	91	48	13	246	178	1, 012
February.....	224	113	167	41	29	178	93	51	13	253	267	984
March.....	265	125	180	51	37	166	113	62	16	285	194	954
April.....	284	146	202	52	36	122	116	66	16	294	185	924
May.....	257	163	202	51	32	82	123	65	17	254	199	909
June.....	275	211	200	55	35	108	131	67	21	290	219	848
July.....	212	168	214	47	26	80	98	59	23	265	263	872
August.....	232	152	207	53	40	71	127	68	23	272	193	822
September.....	225	151	210	55	26	63	124	71	22	265	207	797
October.....	203	150	209	49	38	59	130	68	22	258	212	763
November.....	132	138	197	43	31	49	118	65	23	226	193	730
December.....	92	123	206	32	28	40	111	55	20	224	197	743
1955: January.....	119	116	211	49	21	97	101	61	19	226	238	781
	Percent change											
January, 1954-55.....	-39	+5	+25	+29	-30	-46	+11	+28	+48	-8	+34	-23
Year, 1953-54.....	-26	-5	+ 3	+ 7	+13	-39	+ 7	+10	+ 3	+1	-10	-

Source: Table compiled by the Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the American Iron and Steel Institute, the National Electric Manufacturers Association, the American Institute of Steel Construction, and the Bureau of the Census.

<sup>1</sup> Scheduled for fabrication in the next 4 months.

Table 31.--Clay Construction Products: Production and Shipments

Period	Brick, common and face (MM brick)		Structural clay tile (M tons)		Vitrified clay sewer pipe (M tons)		Hollow facing tile (MM brick equiv.)		Glazed & unglazed floor & wall tile (M sq. ft.)	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
1947-49 average .....	5,504	5,324	1,286	1,231	1,451	1,375	357	341	104,800	101,088
Year: 1952.....	5,889	5,642	977	994	1,649	1,548	413	389	132,085	123,267
1953.....	5,875	5,771	990	922	1,655	1,563	456	444	137,429	134,375
1954.....	6,153	6,119	953	895	1,702	1,636	457	444	141,066	139,515
12 months ending:										
September 1954.....	6,016	5,943	971	901	1,668	1,597	451	440	139,445	137,263
October 1954.....	6,031	5,960	965	898	1,672	1,595	448	439	139,207	137,336
November 1954.....	6,091	6,035	961	895	1,684	1,610	454	442	139,902	138,160
January 1955.....	6,243	6,236	953	906	1,716	1,652	457	444	144,138	142,602
1954: January.....	378	295	68	55	118	85	36	33	10,901	10,171
February.....	376	382	72	64	124	101	33	32	10,616	9,877
March.....	474	460	81	78	145	129	37	36	11,907	11,559
April.....	514	532	83	81	138	143	40	40	12,013	11,831
May.....	523	528	83	81	137	140	33	32	11,019	10,727
June.....	554	588	87	84	151	150	41	40	11,490	11,609
July.....	538	574	84	79	135	153	40	38	11,446	11,765
August.....	583	587	84	81	149	162	40	40	11,610	12,368
September.....	576	589	81	77	156	158	38	38	12,399	12,756
October.....	561	571	81	79	148	153	37	38	12,308	12,272
November.....	557	549	80	72	149	140	40	38	12,477	12,222
December.....	519	464	69	64	151	122	42	39	12,880	12,358
1955: January.....	468	412	68	66	132	101	36	33	13,973	13,258
Percent change										
January, 1954-55.....	+24	+40	(1)	+21	+12	+18	(1)	(1)	+28	+30
Year, 1953-54.....	+5	+6	-4	-3	+4	+5	(1)	(1)	+3	+4

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. <sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.

Table 32.--Clay Construction Products: Production and Shipments, by Census Region <sup>1</sup>

Census Region	PRODUCTION				SHIPMENTS			
	January 1955		Year 1954		January 1955		Year 1954	
	Quantity	Percent change from Jan. 1954	Quantity	Percent change, 1953-54	Quantity	Percent change from Jan. 1954	Quantity	Percent change, 1953-54
Brick, common and face (thousands)								
U. S. TOTAL.....	467,810	+24	6,153,193	+5	411,537	+40	6,119,395	+6
New England.....	7,542	+40	118,866	+1	6,649	+45	120,461	+3
Middle Atlantic.....	71,053	-1	1,081,725	+1	59,276	+42	1,062,336	+1
East North Central.....	103,426	+24	1,471,277	+8	85,294	+21	1,465,109	+8
West North Central.....	24,876	+23	299,387	+6	17,831	+48	290,208	+9
South Atlantic.....	116,290	+25	1,453,856	+5	106,294	+47	1,436,574	+4
East South Central.....	46,325	+37	559,762	+16	41,960	+37	558,844	+20
West South Central.....	62,099	+28	675,278	+10	55,818	+52	672,268	+16
Mountain.....	16,352	+32	203,398	+8	14,836	+28	205,987	+12
Pacific.....	19,847	+128	298,644	+1	23,579	+59	307,608	+4
Structural clay tile (tons)								
U. S. TOTAL.....	67,790	(2)	953,900	-4	66,468	+21	895,284	-3
Middle Atlantic.....	5,932	-14	83,551	+5	6,073	+27	84,056	+1
East North Central.....	9,909	+8	130,758	-11	10,692	+36	127,075	-2
West North Central.....	11,275	+11	174,014	-7	9,706	+26	158,190	-10
South Atlantic.....	12,164	+2	177,764	+9	13,127	+25	165,472	+2
East South Central.....	7,315	+26	96,147	+4	7,517	+43	82,859	(2)
West South Central.....	19,677	-9	258,539	+2	17,571	(2)	246,708	+3
Mountain & Pacific.....	1,518	-34	33,127	-24	1,782	+24	30,924	-17
Vitrified clay sewer pipe (tons)								
U. S. TOTAL.....	132,268	+12	1,702,110	+4	100,512	+18	1,636,503	+5
Middle Atlantic.....	14,161	+13	198,652	+6	7,966	+42	164,256	+4
East North Central.....	52,807	+10	668,440	+1	39,242	+17	653,050	(2)
West North Central.....	17,082	+29	189,345	+4	11,598	+20	189,694	+7
South Atlantic.....	6,344	-24	122,396	+4	5,989	-23	120,871	+7
E. & W. South Central.....	17,936	+9	233,415	+4	17,095	+29	223,039	+10
Mountain.....	4,181	+52	45,918	+15	2,869	+24	44,147	+16
Pacific.....	19,757	+17	243,944	+6	15,753	+24	241,446	+8

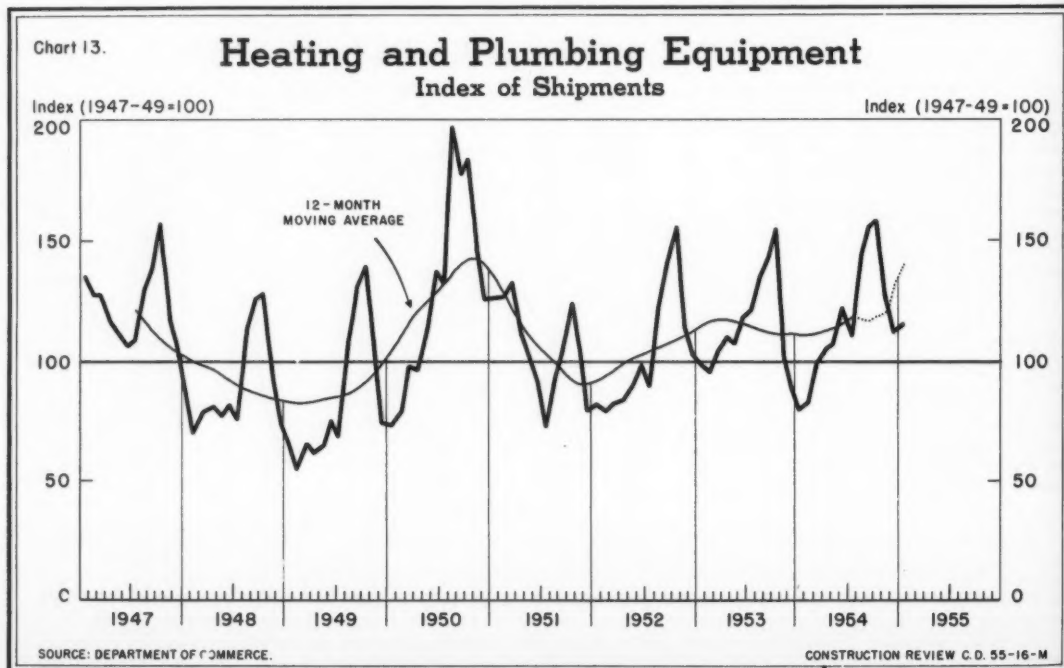
Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. <sup>1</sup> Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown under table 2. <sup>2</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.

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Table 33.--Heating and Plumbing Equipment: Shipments and Stocks

Period	Gas water heaters (Thousand units)		C. I. convectors and radiators (Thousand square feet)		Warm air furnaces (Thousand units)		Floor and wall furnaces (Thousand units)		Residential oil burners (Thousand units)
	Shipments	Stocks	Shipments	Stocks	Shipments	Stocks	Shipments	Stocks	Shipments
1947-49 average .....	1,818	67	50,980	4,377	794	69	552	44	541
Year: 1952 .....	1,996	74	36,898	3,859	928	106	548	59	505
1953 .....	2,274	128	31,667	4,650	997	148	552	108	541
1954 .....	2,235	103	28,386	5,434	1,130	130	550	74	495
12 months ending:									
September 1954 .....	2,196	--	29,170	--	1,073	--	512	--	490
October 1954 .....	2,197	--	28,650	--	1,091	--	523	--	489
November 1954 .....	2,215	--	28,544	--	1,113	--	534	--	492
January 1955 .....	2,274	--	28,020	--	1,158	--	558	--	505
1954: January .....	161	79	2,041	6,126	57	144	31	104	29
February .....	171	83	1,896	6,292	57	146	29	107	27
March .....	184	73	1,732	6,906	69	155	32	103	31
April .....	197	73	2,285	7,453	72	165	34	97	32
May .....	192	83	1,745	7,696	82	170	34	98	33
June .....	203	102	2,208	7,903	95	172	41	95	45
July .....	187	85	1,937	7,438	92	166	41	91	40
August .....	203	90	3,315	6,765	130	153	58	92	56
September .....	201	87	3,217	6,478	148	133	68	75	62
October .....	198	91	3,354	5,915	138	122	76	63	69
November .....	176	95	2,700	5,400	108	121	60	59	42
December .....	163	103	1,956	5,434	81	130	45	74	29
1955: January .....	200	97	1,675	5,876	85	138	39	76	39
Percent change									
January, 1954-55 .....	+24	+22	-18	-4	+49	-4	+25	-27	+12
Year, 1953-54 .....	-2	-20	-10	+17	+13	-12	(1)	-31	-9

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census.

<sup>1</sup> Change of less than 0.5 percent.



## Part VII--Employment

Table 34.--Contract Construction: Employment by Type of Contractor

Period	All contractors	Building contractors							Nonbuilding contractors		
		All building contractors	General contractors	Special trades contractors					All non-building	Highway and street	Other non-building
				All special trades	Plumbing and heating	Painting and decorating	Electrical work	Other trades			
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (in thousands)											
Year: 1946 .....	1,661.0	1,358.0	641.0	717.0	176.2	111.5	94.3	335.4	303.0	138.2	164.5
1947 .....	1,982.0	1,595.0	735.0	860.0	217.9	120.1	116.6	405.6	387.0	169.4	217.4
1948 .....	2,169.0	1,753.0	807.0	946.0	238.2	124.9	123.2	459.8	416.0	172.1	243.8
1949 .....	2,165.0	1,736.0	779.0	957.0	241.7	123.4	122.1	469.5	428.0	178.1	250.3
1950 .....	2,333.0	1,885.0	844.0	1,041.0	263.1	130.8	123.4	524.0	448.0	183.0	265.2
1951 .....	2,603.0	2,109.0	957.6	1,151.7	286.9	155.7	140.5	568.7	493.0	201.3	291.9
1952 .....	2,634.0	2,119.0	948.3	1,170.8	287.7	156.5	155.7	570.9	514.0	209.4	305.0
1953 .....	2,644.0	2,126.0	944.5	1,181.2	293.1	141.8	162.3	577.7	518.0	218.1	299.9
1954 .....	2,628.0	2,100.0	889.9	1,210.0	301.1	142.0	167.4	599.6	528.0	231.6	296.1
1954: Jan. ....	2,349.0	1,934.0	811.5	1,122.6	292.2	124.1	169.1	537.2	415.0	149.9	264.6
Feb. ....	2,356.0	1,936.0	813.7	1,122.5	287.6	122.4	165.4	547.1	420.0	155.9	264.1
Mar. ....	2,415.0	1,972.0	834.0	1,137.8	289.2	127.1	163.1	558.4	443.0	173.3	269.7
Apr. ....	2,535.0	2,038.0	867.8	1,169.9	290.1	134.5	162.0	583.3	497.0	208.0	289.3
May ....	2,634.0	2,084.0	892.5	1,191.7	292.0	139.2	164.2	596.3	550.0	243.6	306.7
June ....	2,729.0	2,147.0	918.4	1,228.4	297.4	150.7	168.2	612.1	582.0	270.7	311.7
July ....	2,795.0	2,196.0	944.0	1,251.9	304.6	155.2	171.4	620.7	599.0	281.4	317.5
Aug. ....	2,851.0	2,239.0	962.2	1,277.2	313.3	161.0	170.7	632.2	612.0	287.3	324.9
Sept. ....	2,817.0	2,219.0	945.6	1,273.8	312.8	158.0	167.6	635.4	598.0	281.9	316.5
Oct. ....	2,777.0	2,193.0	926.1	1,266.4	313.8	149.4	168.9	634.3	584.0	273.1	310.6
Nov. ....	2,724.0	2,170.0	912.6	1,257.8	311.9	145.4	169.5	631.0	554.0	251.1	302.7
Dec. ....	2,549.0	2,071.0	850.2	1,220.4	307.8	136.7	168.4	607.5	478.0	203.0	274.7
1955: Jan. ....	2,358.0	1,935.0	780.0	1,154.5	296.1	123.0	162.8	572.6	423.0	167.5	255.4
Percent change											
Dec. 1954-											
Jan. 1955 .....	-7.5	-6.6	-8.3	-5.4	-3.8	-10.0	-3.3	-5.7	-11.5	-17.5	-7.0
Jan., 1954-55 .....	+ .4	+ .1	-3.9	+2.8	+1.3	- .9	-3.7	+6.6	+ 1.9	+12.4	-3.5

Source: Department of Labor.

Table 35.--Contract Construction: Indexes of Employment (Seasonally Adjusted), and Indexes of Weekly Man-Hours

(1947-49 = 100)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
INDEXES OF EMPLOYMENT (seasonally adjusted) <sup>1</sup>													
1947.....	88.9	89.8	90.3	91.3	91.2	94.4	94.6	96.6	97.5	98.1	98.0	98.5	94.2
1948.....	100.8	95.8	98.2	100.1	101.6	103.9	104.6	105.2	105.6	106.0	106.9	107.0	103.1
1949.....	105.7	103.2	102.0	101.2	101.0	101.3	102.6	103.5	104.5	104.2	104.1	101.8	102.9
1950.....	100.8	99.9	100.1	103.3	106.3	111.1	114.4	116.5	117.6	119.0	119.7	117.5	110.9
1951.....	120.1	119.9	122.2	123.3	123.4	124.3	125.2	125.6	125.1	126.2	123.9	124.6	123.8
1952.....	123.6	124.8	123.1	123.0	123.5	125.8	126.4	127.1	127.5	125.9	126.0	125.2	125.2
1953.....	124.5	124.8	124.8	124.3	124.0	124.0	124.2	124.3	127.3	129.5	128.6	127.6	125.6
1954.....	122.6	124.4	126.1	125.5	125.1	124.7	125.3	125.4	125.1	124.5	125.7	123.6	124.8
1955.....	123.1												
INDEXES OF WEEKLY MAN-HOURS													
1947.....	80.0	77.7	81.8	86.3	92.5	100.5	103.4	107.2	106.6	105.4	97.2	96.4	94.6
1948.....	89.6	81.3	86.7	95.0	102.2	111.9	115.1	117.3	116.2	113.3	106.6	105.4	103.4
1949.....	94.2	88.9	89.2	95.0	103.1	106.8	110.5	114.2	111.5	111.4	104.4	94.9	102.0
1950.....	84.6	79.5	83.7	95.8	106.1	116.7	122.1	129.5	126.1	128.9	123.9	112.7	109.1
1951.....	106.4	99.3	105.4	116.9	126.4	131.8	137.7	141.1	138.5	139.8	124.2	121.6	124.1
1952.....	111.1	112.3	108.3	117.5	125.4	136.8	138.9	143.2	144.0	139.9	128.2	123.9	127.5
1953.....	109.1	108.7	109.1	116.0	122.9	130.9	132.0	137.1	133.2	140.2	130.1	120.6	124.2
1954.....	98.3	106.0	109.8	115.9	122.5	129.4	132.7	135.4	129.4	129.3	124.1	114.5	120.6
1955.....	101.6												

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Indexes for months before October 1953 are based on seasonally adjusted employment data derived by the Federal Reserve Board.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 36.--Contract Construction: Employment in Selected States

State	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, January 1954-55
	1954							1955	1952	1953	1954	
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Jan	Jan.	Jan.	
Alabama .....	32.8	32.5	31.9	35.3	35.8	35.2	31.6	29.2	38.3	29.9	27.7	+ 5
Arizona .....	15.1	15.8	17.8	15.9	15.8	15.8	16.0	15.6	13.9	17.6	17.8	-12
Arkansas <sup>1</sup> .....	15.7	16.7	17.1	16.9	16.8	16.4	15.6	16.5	18.9	19.5	13.3	+24
California .....	233.3	234.8	236.3	236.4	238.3	230.6	230.5	217.1	210.8	240.2	232.2	- 7
Colorado .....	27.1	20.0	26.8	25.9	25.7	25.0	23.8	21.8	27.2	26.3	21.8	0
Connecticut <sup>2</sup> .....	40.7	42.5	43.0	42.3	41.9	41.1	40.0	38.2	37.0	35.4	35.3	+ 8
District of Columbia ..	17.8	17.9	19.3	19.4	19.3	19.0	18.0	17.0	19.4	18.0	15.2	+12
Florida .....	80.1	82.5	84.8	82.0	81.9	83.3	82.9	78.7	73.7	79.7	84.8	- 7
Georgia .....	51.2	45.6	46.6	51.2	52.1	50.5	49.2	49.5	42.7	44.1	45.4	+ 9
Idaho .....	8.1	9.8	9.7	9.3	8.4	6.9	5.9	5.0	8.8	6.5	5.4	- 7
Illinois .....	170.3	177.1	180.0	179.5	174.9	171.0	158.9	145.7	141.7	144.5	142.4	+ 2
Indiana .....	59.1	63.9	64.3	63.1	61.8	63.3	59.8	56.5	55.2	55.4	50.0	+13
Iowa .....	33.6	35.5	36.8	36.2	35.5	35.2	30.2	25.4	25.2	24.4	24.1	+ 5
Kansas .....	40.2	41.8	42.7	43.4	41.2	39.5	35.5	32.5	34.1	30.2	29.1	+12
Louisiana .....	55.5	55.9	55.6	53.2	51.9	50.3	49.4	44.0	48.3	53.5	48.8	-10
Maine <sup>1</sup> .....	14.7	14.9	14.7	14.3	14.5	14.1	12.7	10.7	11.7	8.8	11.3	- 5
Maryland .....	62.0	62.9	63.4	63.3	61.5	60.5	56.3	53.6	53.8	52.8	51.4	+ 4
Massachusetts .....	69.7	71.8	71.7	70.3	70.7	71.2	66.1	59.5	62.4	60.1	58.6	+ 2
Michigan .....	120.2	121.0	127.5	124.5	123.2	122.0	111.4	101.8	91.3	91.8	99.6	+ 2
Minnesota <sup>1</sup> .....	48.3	57.7	61.7	60.7	60.4	58.7	50.3	45.2	37.9	36.7	36.3	+25
Mississippi .....	16.4	17.0	17.3	17.3	16.6	16.7	15.5	16.2	19.4	16.9	14.5	+12
Missouri <sup>1</sup> .....	68.9	71.9	73.0	72.6	68.8	68.2	65.2	60.1	55.9	52.3	55.9	+ 8
Montana .....	11.0	11.7	11.8	11.8	11.5	9.8	8.9	7.5	5.9	6.8	6.5	+15
Nebraska .....	22.7	23.6	24.0	23.7	23.1	21.8	18.8	15.8	15.0	13.7	15.7	+ 1
Nevada .....	8.8	9.0	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.1	8.1	7.3	5.0	7.0	7.2	+ 1
New Hampshire .....	8.0	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	7.8	6.4	6.1	5.6	6.2	+ 3
New Jersey .....	100.4	98.9	101.8	100.1	100.5	98.5	94.9	87.2	84.9	84.8	85.5	+ 2
New Mexico .....	14.4	14.7	15.4	15.5	15.1	14.4	14.0	13.1	12.8	12.2	12.3	+ 7
New York .....	234.9	240.9	244.2	240.4	236.4	229.1	212.6	(3)	192.3	190.0	198.2	--
North Carolina <sup>1</sup> .....	48.7	49.5	49.5	48.6	48.0	47.7	45.3	44.0	57.1	50.4	45.0	- 2
North Dakota <sup>1</sup> .....	13.3	13.9	14.0	13.1	13.1	11.0	8.4	6.3	4.1	4.5	5.7	-11
Ohio <sup>1</sup> .....	158.1	163.4	167.3	164.8	161.1	154.7	143.4	125.2	126.5	121.2	135.9	- 8
Oklahoma .....	32.2	33.6	33.9	32.4	31.2	31.4	29.8	27.5	29.8	33.8	27.3	+ 1
Oregon .....	23.0	24.6	26.6	26.1	25.0	22.2	20.9	19.5	20.3	20.2	18.1	+ 8
Pennsylvania .....	202.7	209.6	211.8	212.8	213.4	206.0	191.1	176.2	161.1	158.3	158.2	+11
Rhode Island .....	15.9	15.6	16.1	17.2	17.7	17.2	16.5	15.0	14.4	14.1	12.5	+20
South Carolina .....	40.4	40.8	39.7	39.1	38.1	35.9	34.7	33.1	49.7	54.8	39.9	-17
South Dakota .....	10.5	10.9	11.6	10.5	10.2	8.6	7.4	6.3	6.5	5.7	6.9	- 9
Tennessee <sup>1</sup> .....	54.9	57.8	60.6	61.1	61.0	59.8	56.4	53.5	43.5	46.5	46.8	+14
Texas <sup>1</sup> .....	152.8	152.9	156.3	154.6	152.0	155.2	151.1	148.1	166.1	168.8	139.1	+ 6
Utah .....	11.4	12.2	13.2	13.7	13.6	13.2	11.7	8.9	8.7	9.3	8.1	+10
Vermont <sup>1</sup> .....	4.7	5.1	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.0	3.1	2.8	2.9	3.5	-11
Virginia .....	58.0	60.0	62.4	60.9	62.4	60.6	56.7	54.4	57.7	55.6	49.8	+ 9
Washington .....	51.5	52.1	51.9	51.9	49.3	46.9	44.4	41.2	38.2	37.1	36.4	+13
West Virginia <sup>1</sup> .....	19.6	21.5	21.6	19.2	19.4	18.1	14.7	14.3	15.3	18.5	17.2	-17
Wisconsin <sup>1</sup> .....	52.9	56.9	57.2	56.8	57.8	56.7	52.2	48.1	45.9	46.4	43.5	+11
Wyoming .....	6.9	7.3	7.3	6.8	7.0	5.7	5.0	4.3	4.6	5.1	4.1	+ 5

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Revised series; not strictly comparable with previously published data.<sup>2</sup> Includes a small number of employees in mining.<sup>3</sup> Not

yet available.

Table 37.--Contract Construction: Employment in Selected Areas

Area	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, January 1954-55
	1954							1955	1952	1953	1954	
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	
+5 Albany-Schenectady-Troy, N. Y. ....	6.4	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.4	6.7	5.7	(1)	5.7	5.9	5.7	--
-12 Albuquerque, N. Mex. ....	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.9	5.1	4.6	4.3	4.5	3.9	+18
+24 Atlanta, Ga. ....	18.1	13.0	13.2	17.3	18.0	18.3	18.1	17.4	15.1	12.9	14.7	+18
-7 Baltimore, Md. ....	39.0	39.2	39.8	40.0	38.3	37.6	35.1	33.6	32.2	31.8	33.9	-1
0 Binghamton, N. Y. ....	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.8	(1)	2.5	2.2	2.4	--
+8 Birmingham, Ala. ....	10.7	11.4	11.3	11.8	12.1	11.8	11.1	10.7	11.4	9.7	9.1	+18
+12 Boise, Idaho ....	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.3	-15
-7 Boston, Mass. ....	40.3	41.2	42.4	41.1	41.7	42.0	39.9	36.4	36.6	35.8	35.5	+3
+9 Bridgeport, Conn. <sup>2</sup> ....	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.3	+2
-7 Buffalo, N. Y. ....	20.3	22.2	21.7	22.5	22.3	21.3	18.1	(1)	16.2	17.1	16.8	--
+2 Casper, Wyo. ....	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.4	.9	.9	.9	1.2	.8	+13
+13 Charleston, S. C. ....	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.7	4.0	-18
+5 Charleston, W. Va. ....	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	3.4	3.5	4.5	4.7	4.5	-22
+12 Charlotte, N. C. ....	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.2	5.0	6.5	5.9	5.6	-11
-10 Chattanooga, Tenn. ....	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.0	4.9	4.8	3.3	5.1	3.5	+37
-5 Chicago, Ill. ....	110.1	115.4	116.1	112.7	110.3	109.8	103.1	(1)	94.6	96.2	95.8	--
+4 Denver, Colo. ....	17.8	11.9	17.2	16.6	16.7	15.7	14.7	13.7	16.7	16.7	14.2	-4
+2 Des Moines, Iowa ....	4.5	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.4	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	-3
+2 Duluth, Minn. ....	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.1	2.0	+10
+25 Harrisburg, Pa. ....	6.3	7.2	7.8	7.9	7.6	7.5	6.4	5.4	5.8	5.9	4.7	+15
+12 Hartford, Conn. <sup>2</sup> ....	9.2	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.2	8.8	7.8	8.1	8.2	7.9	-1
+8 Indianapolis, Ind. ....	10.1	10.3	10.2	9.8	9.1	9.1	8.4	8.2	10.9	10.7	8.1	+1
+15 Jacksonville, Fla. ....	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	8.9	8.9	8.3	9.1	-2
+1 Kansas City, Mo. ....	21.0	20.6	20.0	18.0	16.8	18.0	18.9	(1)	17.9	21.1	20.0	--
+1 Knoxville, Tenn. ....	13.4	4.1	12.7	16.3	16.4	16.4	13.8	12.5	5.6	8.3	12.5	0
+3 Lewiston, Maine <sup>3</sup> ....	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	.8	.8	1.0	0
+2 Little Rock-N. Little Rock, Ark. <sup>3</sup> ..	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.2	6.2	4.5	4.2	4.0	+55
+7 Los Angeles, Calif. ....	104.3	103.7	104.9	106.2	106.7	105.5	107.3	(1)	93.4	109.7	111.1	--
-- Manchester, N. H. ....	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.4	0
-2 Memphis, Tenn. ....	9.6	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.0	9.7	9.9	8.7	+3
-11 Miami, Fla. ....	19.8	20.6	22.0	21.5	21.4	24.1	24.5	23.2	17.6	18.9	20.3	+14
-8 Minneapolis, Minn. ....	11.2	14.0	15.6	15.5	15.6	15.2	13.4	11.5	11.6	10.4	11.7	-2
+1 Mobile, Ala. ....	4.0	1.0	1.3	3.0	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.8	(1)	5.2	4.1	-7
+8 Nashville, Tenn. <sup>2</sup> ....	7.4	7.8	8.1	8.3	8.0	7.4	7.0	6.6	(1)	9.3	6.7	-1
+11 Nassau-Suffolk Counties, N. Y. ....	29.1	28.9	28.0	27.8	27.9	27.4	26.1	(1)	(1)	23.1	22.5	--
+20 New Bedford, Mass. ....	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	0
-17 New Britain, Conn. <sup>2</sup> ....	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	.9	1.1	1.0	+10
-9 New Haven, Conn. <sup>2</sup> ....	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.0	5.6	4.8	5.6	5.2	4.9	-2
+14 New Orleans, La. ....	19.1	18.7	18.9	18.5	17.5	17.1	16.9	(1)	19.9	19.9	18.8	--
+6 New York City, N. Y. ....	110.5	110.9	110.2	109.4	105.7	104.5	101.0	(1)	95.6	91.0	101.6	--
+10 Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va. ....	11.9	12.1	12.3	11.9	11.9	11.4	11.0	10.4	9.9	9.8	10.4	0
-11 Oklahoma City, Okla. ....	9.1	9.2	9.5	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.1	7.5	10.2	9.1	7.8	-4
+9 Omaha, Nebr. ....	9.2	9.5	9.5	9.3	9.0	8.8	7.8	6.7	7.2	5.9	7.9	-15
+13 Phoenix, Ariz. ....	7.6	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.4	8.9	9.1	8.9	7.1	8.9	8.9	0
-17 Portland, Maine <sup>3</sup> ....	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.2	3.5	2.4	2.6	+23
+11 Portland, Ore. ....	12.2	13.1	14.5	14.6	14.3	13.2	12.4	11.7	10.7	10.9	10.5	+11
+5 Providence, R. I. ....	14.1	13.8	14.2	15.2	15.7	15.2	14.7	13.3	12.7	12.5	10.8	+23
Reno, Nev. ....	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.1	1.4	1.6	0
Richmond, Va. ....	10.2	10.7	10.8	11.5	12.3	11.6	11.1	10.8	10.2	9.9	8.8	+23
Rochester, N. Y. ....	10.0	10.3	10.6	10.4	10.2	9.8	8.7	(1)	7.5	7.1	7.7	--

See footnotes at end of table.

## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 37.--Contract Construction: Employment in Selected Areas--Continued

Area	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, January 1954-55
	1954							1955	1952	1953	1954	
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	
St. Paul, Minn. ....	7.0	9.5	10.3	10.2	10.0	9.4	7.7	7.2	6.7	6.2	7.1	+ 1
Salt Lake City, Utah .....	6.7	7.5	7.9	8.2	8.1	7.7	6.8	6.1	5.6	5.7	5.2	+17
San Diego, Calif. ....	11.1	10.9	10.6	10.1	10.0	9.7	9.4	(1)	11.8	13.9	11.0	--
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif. ....	54.1	55.0	56.2	56.2	57.8	56.7	56.1	(1)	51.7	53.1	51.2	--
Savannah, Ga. ....	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.9	3.1	4.3	3.6	-19
Seattle, Wash. ....	13.4	13.7	14.0	14.5	14.2	13.3	12.7	12.3	10.0	10.7	10.2	+21
Spokane, Wash. ....	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.4	3.9	3.2	3.6	3.3	2.9	+10
Springfield-Holyoke, Mass. ....	4.9	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.8	3.9	3.8	+18
Stamford, Conn. <sup>2</sup> .....	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.2	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.8	0
Syracuse, N. Y. ....	5.8	7.1	7.8	7.1	7.6	6.7	5.4	(1)	5.1	5.7	5.6	--
Tacoma, Wash. ....	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.3	+ 3
Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla. ....	12.4	12.6	12.8	13.1	13.4	13.2	12.9	12.9	11.3	12.3	13.2	- 2
Topeka, Kans. ....	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.0	+20
Tucson, Ariz. ....	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.6	3.8	5.1	3.7	-30
Tulsa, Okla. ....	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.1	7.5	6.8	+ 4
Utica-Rome, N. Y. ....	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.2	1.8	(1)	2.4	2.3	1.9	--
Washington, D. C. ....	38.1	38.6	40.8	40.5	40.4	39.6	38.1	36.1	37.2	34.7	31.8	+14
Waterbury, Conn. <sup>2</sup> .....	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.6	0
Wheeling-Steubenville, W. Va. ....	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.0	+10
Wichita, Kans. ....	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.0	6.4	6.4	5.4	5.4	5.5	+16
Worcester, Mass. ....	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.2	-13

Source: Department of Labor.  
with previously published data.

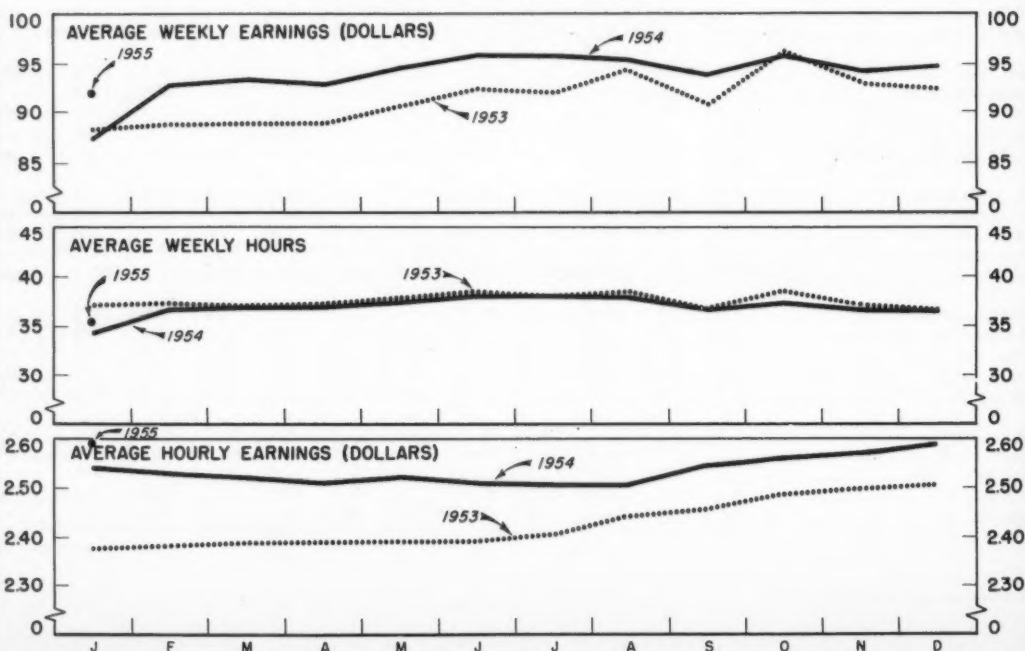
<sup>1</sup> Not available.

<sup>2</sup> Includes a small number of employees in mining.

<sup>3</sup> Revised series; not strictly comparable

Chart 14.

## Hours and Earnings of Workers In Contract Construction



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 55-2-K



## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table 38.--Contract Construction: Hours and Gross Earnings of Construction Workers

Period	All construction	Building construction							Nonbuilding construction		
		All building contractors	General contractors	Special trades contractors					All non-building	Highway and street	Other non-building
				All special trades	Plumbing and heating	Painting and decorating	Electrical work	Other trades			
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS											
Year: 1953.....	\$91.61	\$91.76	\$87.75	\$95.05	\$98.30	\$87.10	\$111.61	\$91.04	\$90.27	\$85.28	\$93.85
1954.....	93.81	94.26	89.41	97.83	102.69	90.07	112.56	93.04	92.52	85.88	97.39
1954: January.....	87.12	87.46	82.13	91.80	99.96	82.36	111.07	83.21	83.88	71.69	91.02
February.....	92.85	93.24	88.94	96.30	103.30	87.28	112.42	90.90	91.14	81.37	97.20
March.....	93.24	94.28	90.41	97.11	101.68	88.58	112.42	91.87	90.12	80.98	95.92
April.....	92.87	94.17	89.55	97.28	101.41	89.27	110.98	93.10	89.60	82.53	94.71
May.....	94.50	94.69	89.67	98.36	101.95	89.78	113.59	94.68	93.79	88.97	97.93
June.....	95.63	95.72	90.04	99.70	103.41	92.04	113.39	95.89	96.14	91.81	100.28
July.....	95.63	95.20	89.55	99.80	103.14	92.39	112.40	96.15	97.29	95.26	99.39
August.....	95.38	96.20	91.51	99.90	103.52	92.31	113.88	96.10	97.44	93.09	100.77
September.....	93.84	94.32	89.00	98.10	102.92	92.57	110.08	94.08	92.97	88.75	96.33
October.....	95.74	96.26	91.62	99.46	103.63	92.75	115.05	94.87	94.13	86.62	100.53
November.....	94.32	94.15	89.61	97.65	100.10	90.37	112.18	93.90	94.30	88.94	98.55
December.....	94.54	95.40	90.83	98.55	107.20	91.12	113.30	91.77	89.47	80.51	96.08
1955: January.....	91.95	93.28	88.30	96.37	104.98	86.98	113.00	89.38	86.16	77.28	91.74
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS											
Year: 1953.....	37.7	37.0	37.5	36.7	38.1	34.7	39.3	35.7	40.3	41.2	39.6
1954.....	37.0	36.2	36.2	36.3	37.9	34.4	38.6	35.2	40.0	40.2	39.9
1954: January.....	34.3	33.9	33.8	34.0	37.3	31.8	38.3	31.4	36.0	34.3	37.0
February.....	36.7	36.0	36.3	35.8	37.8	33.7	38.9	34.3	39.8	39.5	40.0
March.....	37.0	36.4	36.9	36.1	37.8	34.2	38.9	34.8	39.7	39.5	39.8
April.....	37.0	36.5	36.7	36.3	37.7	34.6	38.4	35.4	39.3	39.3	39.3
May.....	37.5	36.7	36.6	36.6	37.9	34.8	38.9	36.0	40.6	41.0	40.3
June.....	38.1	37.1	36.9	37.2	38.3	35.4	39.1	36.6	41.8	42.7	41.1
July.....	38.1	36.9	36.7	37.1	38.2	35.4	38.1	36.7	42.3	43.9	40.9
August.....	38.0	37.0	36.9	37.0	38.2	35.1	39.0	36.4	42.0	42.7	41.3
September.....	36.8	36.0	35.6	36.2	37.7	34.8	37.7	35.5	39.9	40.9	39.0
October.....	37.4	36.6	36.5	36.7	38.1	35.0	39.0	35.8	40.4	40.1	40.7
November.....	36.7	35.8	35.7	35.9	36.8	34.1	37.9	35.3	40.3	40.8	39.9
December.....	36.5	36.0	35.9	36.1	38.7	34.0	38.8	34.5	38.4	37.8	38.9
1955: January.....	35.5	35.2	34.9	35.3	37.9	32.7	38.7	33.6	37.3	36.8	37.6
AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS											
Year: 1953.....	\$2.43	\$2.48	\$2.34	\$2.59	\$2.58	\$2.51	\$2.84	\$2.55	\$2.24	\$2.07	\$2.37
1954.....	2.54	2.60	2.47	2.70	2.71	2.62	2.92	2.64	2.31	2.13	2.44
1954: January.....	2.54	2.58	2.43	2.70	2.68	2.59	2.90	2.65	2.33	2.09	2.46
February.....	2.53	2.59	2.45	2.69	2.68	2.59	2.89	2.65	2.29	2.06	2.43
March.....	2.52	2.59	2.45	2.69	2.69	2.59	2.89	2.64	2.27	2.05	2.41
April.....	2.51	2.58	2.44	2.68	2.69	2.58	2.89	2.63	2.28	2.10	2.41
May.....	2.52	2.58	2.45	2.68	2.69	2.58	2.92	2.63	2.30	2.17	2.43
June.....	2.51	2.58	2.44	2.68	2.70	2.60	2.90	2.62	2.30	2.15	2.44
July.....	2.51	2.58	2.44	2.69	2.70	2.61	2.95	2.62	2.30	2.17	2.43
August.....	2.51	2.60	2.48	2.70	2.71	2.63	2.92	2.64	2.32	2.18	2.44
September.....	2.55	2.62	2.50	2.71	2.73	2.66	2.92	2.65	2.33	2.17	2.47
October.....	2.56	2.63	2.51	2.71	2.72	2.65	2.95	2.65	2.33	2.16	2.47
November.....	2.57	2.63	2.51	2.72	2.72	2.65	2.96	2.66	2.34	2.18	2.47
December.....	2.59	2.65	2.53	2.73	2.77	2.68	2.92	2.66	2.33	2.13	2.47
1955: January.....	2.59	2.65	2.53	2.73	2.77	2.66	2.92	2.66	2.31	2.10	2.44
Percent change, January 1954 to 1955											
Avg. wkly. earnings..	+5.5	+6.7	+7.5	+5.0	+5.0	+5.6	+1.7	+7.4	+2.7	+7.8	+ .8
Avg. wkly. hours.....	+3.5	+3.8	+3.3	+3.8	+1.6	+2.8	+1.0	+7.0	+3.6	+7.3	+1.6
Avg. hrly. earnings..	+2.0	+2.7	+4.1	+1.1	+3.4	+2.7	+ .7	+ .4	- .9	+ .5	- .8

Source: Department of Labor.



## CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 39.--Registered Apprentices in the Building Trades, by State and Territory, and Trade

State and territory	Number of apprentices registered and active at end of fourth quarter		
	1952	1953	1954
Total .....	<sup>1</sup> 80,927	<sup>2</sup> 84,954	<sup>1 2</sup> 84,820
Alabama .....	1,295	1,427	1,163
Alaska .....	91	160	196
Arizona .....	776	846	1,086
Arkansas .....	431	445	341
California .....	10,933	10,664	10,351
Colorado .....	901	862	838
Connecticut .....	(3)	1,916	1,964
Delaware .....	121	133	146
Dist. of Col. ....	940	1,007	892
Florida .....	2,340	2,430	2,383
Georgia .....	2,027	2,434	1,714
Hawaii .....	209	349	297
Idaho .....	270	293	237
Illinois .....	4,807	5,868	6,886
Indiana .....	1,231	1,351	1,431
Iowa .....	829	858	913
Kansas .....	471	427	561
Kentucky .....	1,224	1,300	1,086
Louisiana .....	1,350	1,594	1,529
Maine .....	60	166	186
Maryland .....	1,144	1,315	1,195
Massachusetts .....	2,149	2,035	2,093
Michigan .....	3,102	3,140	3,588
Minnesota .....	2,376	2,368	2,432
Mississippi .....	457	441	318
Missouri .....	1,717	1,906	1,969
Montana .....	413	418	505
Nebraska .....	508	485	463
Nevada .....	164	205	289
New Hampshire .....	98	87	94
New Jersey .....	2,270	1,971	1,930
New Mexico .....	453	459	427
New York .....	(3)	9,225	(3)
North Carolina .....	1,744	1,633	1,472
North Dakota .....	52	49	70
Ohio .....	5,723	6,026	6,387
Oklahoma .....	733	717	535
Oregon .....	867	823	865
Pennsylvania .....	3,225	3,172	3,492
Rhode Island .....	289	411	441
South Carolina .....	844	944	764
South Dakota .....	69	93	124
Tennessee .....	2,097	2,198	1,816
Texas .....	3,932	3,874	3,685
Utah .....	546	570	513
Vermont .....	100	95	92
Virginia .....	1,540	1,290	1,237
Washington .....	1,584	1,718	1,859
West Virginia .....	367	441	409
Wisconsin .....	2,566	2,062	2,089
Wyoming .....	267	253	242

See footnotes at end of table.

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Table 39.--Registered Apprentices in the Building Trades, by State and Territory, and Trade--Continued

State and territory	Number of apprentices registered and active at end of fourth quarter											
	1953						1954 <sup>1</sup>					
	Carpenter	Electrician	Painter and paper-hanger	Plumber and pipe-fitter	Sheet metal worker	Trowel trades <sup>4</sup>	Carpenter	Electrician	Painter and paper-hanger	Plumber and pipe-fitter	Sheet metal worker	Trowel trades <sup>4</sup>
Total .....	23,884	16,475	3,695	18,948	9,105	12,029	23,095	16,156	3,954	19,871	9,624	11,302
Alabama .....	513	230	107	218	162	197	412	196	72	231	143	109
Alaska .....	63	39	1	50	7	0	93	33	7	55	8	0
Arizona .....	338	196	73	109	69	61	434	280	90	142	85	55
Arkansas .....	200	64	56	81	14	30	105	62	39	91	20	24
California .....	4,369	1,371	617	2,180	1,324	803	3,994	1,289	780	2,302	1,367	619
Colorado .....	184	115	26	195	195	147	197	104	31	195	206	105
Connecticut .....	630	179	136	484	250	237	622	217	156	487	233	249
Delaware .....	19	24	20	31	20	19	35	23	20	36	16	16
Dist. of Col. ....	203	212	58	226	113	195	129	215	43	244	82	179
Florida .....	750	861	36	338	206	239	617	876	47	382	231	230
Georgia .....	464	983	78	518	182	209	338	628	50	372	179	147
Hawaii .....	113	97	9	79	38	13	85	86	7	70	40	9
Idaho .....	87	77	11	50	50	18	65	64	13	47	38	10
Illinois .....	1,164	1,171	296	1,424	418	1,395	1,485	1,375	346	1,682	552	1,446
Indiana .....	234	315	81	211	213	297	222	299	63	252	230	365
Iowa .....	268	118	50	215	104	103	281	128	55	220	125	104
Kansas .....	111	88	12	92	46	78	173	88	24	111	67	98
Kentucky .....	357	304	28	373	127	111	258	268	29	315	119	97
Louisiana .....	433	363	65	409	117	207	390	391	55	353	120	220
Maine .....	12	78	0	52	9	15	19	77	1	67	13	9
Maryland .....	286	372	39	316	78	224	214	325	39	288	80	249
Massachusetts ..	404	439	45	596	212	339	393	443	53	686	257	261
Michigan .....	745	568	98	698	470	561	896	619	167	718	575	613
Minnesota .....	469	519	165	574	350	291	524	518	155	604	365	266
Mississippi .....	172	108	0	115	29	17	74	102	0	91	22	29
Missouri .....	663	224	122	346	279	272	630	256	150	378	298	257
Montana .....	157	81	32	77	47	24	212	82	41	96	55	19
Nebraska .....	139	69	25	81	87	84	142	84	17	96	65	59
Nevada .....	56	101	3	26	16	3	84	120	10	40	35	0
New Hampshire ..	20	3	0	61	0	3	33	3	0	58	0	0
New Jersey .....	614	172	34	530	274	347	632	196	23	475	253	351
New Mexico .....	128	200	26	65	20	20	123	178	31	54	27	14
New York .....	2,590	1,354	200	1,500	772	1,991	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
North Carolina ..	306	472	47	372	169	267	276	457	39	333	179	188
North Dakota ....	10	0	0	19	0	20	13	0	0	37	0	20
Ohio .....	1,326	975	211	1,574	765	1,175	1,383	990	209	1,895	818	1,092
Oklahoma .....	201	125	30	178	122	61	167	84	19	107	105	53
Oregon .....	181	260	42	149	147	44	189	232	57	153	173	61
Pennsylvania ....	843	406	57	1,121	270	475	893	519	55	1,244	301	480
Rhode Island ....	152	41	19	105	22	72	166	55	17	142	37	24
South Carolina ..	113	367	9	263	46	146	102	278	6	229	52	97
South Dakota ....	32	19	3	23	12	4	42	19	7	34	13	9
Tennessee .....	893	597	81	302	157	168	573	509	102	324	157	151
Texas .....	1,022	914	244	996	296	402	913	836	224	1,039	318	355
Utah .....	199	67	54	105	85	60	187	69	40	92	85	40
Vermont .....	26	7	1	50	5	6	27	9	0	46	7	3
Virginia .....	255	352	61	335	151	136	195	350	56	335	167	134
Washington .....	697	350	123	217	199	132	812	334	130	282	178	123
West Virginia ....	95	85	12	149	59	41	86	95	15	127	63	23
Wisconsin .....	486	294	141	634	258	249	443	315	159	679	262	231
Wyoming .....	92	49	11	36	44	21	127	26	5	35	31	18

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>1</sup> Includes an estimate for New York.<sup>2</sup> Includes data for trades not shown separately.<sup>3</sup> Not

available.

<sup>4</sup> Covers brick, stone, and tile workers; cement masons; and plasterers.

## Construction Legislation

**FHA Mortgage Insurance Authorization Increased by \$1.5 Billion.** (Public Law 10, approved March 11, 1955.)

By an amendment to section 217 of the National Housing Act, the authorization limit for the Federal Housing Administration to write home mortgage insurance was increased by \$1.5 billion. Section 217 presently contains the mortgage-insurance authorization for all FHA programs, with the exception of the title I home repair and improvement program.

It has been estimated that this additional \$1.5 billion, together with the approximately \$393 million authorization unused as of January 31, 1955, will ensure sufficient authority to take care of current needs through June 30, 1955, and provide an adequate reserve to permit orderly withdrawals from the FHA insurance fund without fear of premature exhaustion.

## Construction Regulations

**Eligibility Requirements for FHA Insurance Revised to Exclude Structures Having an Adverse Effect on Surrounding Properties.** (FHA Field Directive, No. 1510, dated March 16, 1955.)

The Federal Housing Administration recently revised its underwriting instructions to make ineligible for mortgage insurance any structure (new, remodeled, or converted) which, because of its physical characteristics, would seriously affect the appeal and desirability of surrounding properties. In issuing the revised instructions, the FHA pointed out that to insure mortgages for such structures would be "contrary to good business practice and to the objectives of the National Housing Act, namely, the improvement of housing standards and conditions." The new regulation refers only to physical characteristics of the properties, and carries no reference to social or economic factors.

**New FHA Regulations: (1) Requiring Payment in Full by the Subdivider or Builder for Private Community Facilities Installed; (2) Restricting Their Transfer to Approved Bodies; and (3) Governing Distribution of Profits From Such Transfer (Feb. 4, 1955) Amended to Permit Certain Exemptions (Mar. 24, 1955).** (FHA Field Directives Nos. 1500 and 1501, dated February 4, 1955, and March 24, 1955, respectively.)

On February 4, the Federal Housing Administration issued a new order providing that in the future all privately owned community water and sewerage systems connected with FHA-processed subdivisions must be installed and paid for in full by, or for, the builder or subdivider. At the same time, a new form of Trust Deed was made mandatory, stipulating that transfer of title to such facilities could be made only to a governmental authority or public utility company controlled by a State Public Utilities Commission or similar body. The new Trust Deed also provides that any consideration accruing from the sale or transfer of the facilities shall be distributed among the property owners served by the system.

The announced purpose of these new requirements was to "preclude a sale (of privately operated community water and sewerage systems) which might be disadvantageous to the home owner, or in some cases, the collection of excessive charges."

On March 24, the FHA amended the above regulations, as follows: The new form of Trust Deed will not be required when the subdivision sponsor or the owner of a proposed community

water and sewerage system has received a subdivision report or other written communication from an FHA field office indicating that FHA would accept the 1953 form of Trust Deed. In addition, the FHA field office may request a waiver of the new requirement when a sponsor or owner has already spent a considerable sum of money or assumed obligations because discussions with field officials led to the belief that the 1953 form would be acceptable.

Under the 1953 Trust Deed the property owner is assured of adequate service at proper rates but has no interest in the system itself; under the new form of Trust Deed, while title does not vest in the property owners served by the systems they are assured of a share in any sums received in the event of sale to a governmental authority or a public utility company.

**Anti-Kickback Regulations Amended to Permit Payroll Deductions for Union Dues and Initiation Fees, and for Certain Charity Contributions.** (Federal Register, Vol. 20, No. 58, March 24, 1955, p. 1765.)

An amendment to paragraph 3.5 of the Anti-Kickback Regulations (signed by the Secretary of Labor on March 17) permits the following additional items to be deducted from the weekly wages of employees engaged on construction projects financed wholly or partially by the Federal Government: (a) Union membership dues and regular initiation fees, where a collective bargaining agreement provides for such deductions (this does not include work permits or special assessments); (b) Contributions to the Red Cross and to Community Chests.

The Anti-Kickback Regulations are issued by the Department of Labor as an aid in the enforcement of the Copeland Act (which makes it unlawful for contractors or subcontractors to induce their employees to give up any part of the compensation to which they are entitled under their contract of employment), as well as to effect the purposes of the Davis-Bacon ("prevailing wages") Act and certain other laws concerned with rates of pay for labor.





